

REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF LEXINGTON

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1877.



LAWRENCE:
PRINTED BY HAMMON REED.
1877.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SELECTMEN.

Your Selectmen, upon assuming to discharge the duties of the office to which they had been elected, were, they trust, fully aware of the responsibility which rested upon them, for the two-fold reason: that they were to assist in endeavoring to carry out the laudable and praiseworthy exertions of the town in reducing the general expenditures; and as the reverberations from the echoes of those ringing words "Economy," "Retrenchment," and "Reform" that were heard by our predecessors, one year ago, are as potent now as then, and probably ever will be, until the town, by its votes, reduces every appropriation to its lowest possible demand. The schools must be maintained, the roads kept in a safe condition, and the poor supported, but many other of the usual expenditures might, perhaps, upon reflection and investigation, be reduced or discontinued. If the effort is made by any town officer to reduce the price of the mechanic or laborer, how quickly the cry is heard, "Deprivation from a just equivalent," also, whenever the necessary commodities for the town's supply are purchased, even at a reduction of cost, elsewhere, again how soon the exclamation is at once raised, "Why not bestow your patronage in town, and aid your tax payers." The market value of what is needed will and must be the guide towards a reduction of many of the expenses, and an abstinence from what is not absolutely required will also aid in that direction. Not much reduction in the general expenses of the town need be expected, until

the town by its votes regulates its appropriations to the lowest amount possible, to meet its real and absolute wants and requirements.

Upon entering upon the discharge of our duties, we could not bring to our aid any recent experience in the management of town affairs, and in the absence of any proffered assistance were forced to acquaint and familiarize ourselves with the condition of the town affairs, by that slow and not always sure process of gathering information from such sources as circumstances might disclose.

The generally conceded and acknowledged fact, that after the town, by its votes, elects a number of individuals for the office termed selectmen, that after those persons have taken the oath of office, prescribed by law, they then become the servants of the town, through whom it is expected the requirements and obligations of the town are to be executed and performed, and whenever in the estimation or judgment of the town those servants become remiss, neglectful, or unmindful, or do not seemingly consult the interest of the town, then it is not only your privilege, but we think your duty, not to stand at the corners of the streets, or sit beside your firesides, and denounce those servants, but to come before them, either at the town meetings or elsewhere, and freely and frankly make known what were your expectations or desires, state your grievances, and call upon those servants to render a faithful account of their stewardship.

We are gratified with the privilege that is accorded us in the presentation of this annual report, to give somewhat in detail an account of the expenditures of the money appropriated, as well as the general affairs of the town.

We trust we shall be pardoned in departing from the usual custom, by giving a more detailed or explicit account of some of the subjects which affect the interest and welfare of the town.

One of our first acts was an agreement or resolve that no

contract or expenditure, that was under our control or jurisdiction, should be made without the consent and concurrence of a majority of the board.

The several suits at law, and other unsettled affairs in which the town is unhappily as well as unprofitably involved, early demanded our attention, and we regret to say are not yet all settled.

The road as laid out by the County Commissioners, upon the petition of Hammon Reed et. al., we caused to be brought before the town, with approval of the offer made for a settlement, but the action of the town at that time and subsequently was such that the matter remains as it was last March.

The unsettled claims arising from the drainage of the meadows have not all been paid, and probably will not without recourse to law; in fact, the case is now in court. A hearing before the Supreme Court upon the constitutionality of the Act of the Legislature was had in January last.

The Selectmen, in 1873, made an award of \$30.00 to Mr. David Wood, for compensation in consequence of deepening the brook running through his land. From this award Mr. Wood appealed to the County Commissioners, before whom a hearing was had in June last. The award made by the Selectmen was confirmed by the Commissioners. Mr. Wood then made application for a sheriff's jury, which, against our earnest protest, was granted, with the condition that Mr. Wood furnish bonds, to secure the town for expenses, in case he should be defaulted. The jury met in the Town Hall, Dec. 11th, then adjourned to the 15th, when the case was suddenly terminated by reason that Mr. Wood was not owner of the premises when the award was made. The law of limitations checks any further proceedings in the matter.

During the past year, our attention has several times been directed to take notice of encroachments within the limits of the roads. In the absence of any record of bounds it is difficult

to convince persons of their encroachments. We have caused a survey to be made where necessary, and bounds established and a record made of the same. We would recommend the establishing of bounds, from time to time, so that ere long no question can arise as to what are the limits of the several roads.

At the town meeting, held in Nov., 1875, an appropriation of \$300.00 was voted, and to be taken from the contingent grant. This amount was to be expended by Mr. Cornelius Wellington upon the highway adjoining his premises, and subject to the approval and acceptance of the Selectmen. Mr. Wellington has faithfully fulfilled his agreement, and we have accepted the same, and allowed payment, as per vote of the town. We fail to see the legality of a vote of this kind, as the law explicitly states that all money granted for the repairs of highways shall be expended under the direction of the Selectmen or Surveyor of Highways. It is, furthermore, adopting a precedent that is susceptible of much abuse, for if allowed in one instance, requests for appropriations for the same purpose may become too frequent.

By an un-anticipated occurrence, occasioned by the Treasurer, several years since, giving permission for the removal of the standard weights and measures to the place of business of the appointed sealer, they were lost by the burning of the building in which they were kept. As the law requires every town to have a set, we have replaced them, at a cost of \$356.50. We do not think permission for their removal from the Town Hall building justifiable under any circumstances whatever.

From the frequent demands for lumber for the repairs of railing beside the highways, and for the poor farm, school houses, and other purposes, we thought it advisable to purchase a small quantity, of assorted kinds, and place it in the basement of the Town Hall building, where it would be safely kept, and taken when wanted for immediate use. As it could

not be known for what particular department it might be wanted, it was paid for from the contingent grant. Whenever any should be wanted, it could then be charged to the grant for which purpose it was used.

Our attention has been particularly drawn to a subject that commends itself, without the advice or assistance of any person, to your consideration. The Common is being visited almost daily by people, we might, perhaps, with safety say, from all parts of the country, and as that sacred spot will ever be held dear to every American citizen, we think it behooves the town, in order to perpetuate its historic reputation, to manifest its respect and veneration for that spot, by seeing that its condition is improved and beautified in such ways as its general appearance may suggest or demand. We would recommend that a side-walk be built around it, and such other improvements made as would render it more attractive.

At the last town meeting, instructions were given the Selectmen, with W. A. Tower, Esq., to endeavor to collect the claim which the town held against the Middlesex Central Railroad. Our attempts having been thus far unsuccessful, perhaps it might be deemed advisable to have recourse to law, and compel a settlement, if possible.

STREET LAMPS.

A contract for lighting the street lamps was made with two parties, one for the central part of the town and the other for the East Village, the contracts commenced June 1st, for one year. The contract with the party in the center of the town was suddenly terminated by the failure of the Gas Company. The contractor was willing to continue if the town would pay an additional sum equal to the rise in oil. This arrangement we concluded to accept. If the present policy of lighting the street lamps is continued, and there should be no reduc-

tion in the price of oil, the subject demands your thoughtful consideration, as a sum equal to the appropriation of this year will be entirely insufficient. It would probably require an appropriation of about \$2,000.00.

TRAMPS.

The question which is being so extensively discussed, "What can be done with the tramps?" is assuming an importance that cannot be easily overlooked, when it is known that this small town was honored with visits from 600 the past year, and no doubt, if the bill of fare (crackers and salt fish) had been more elaborate, and our sleeping apartments more attractive, more visitors might have been received and entertained. The cost of their entertainment the past year was about \$125.00. A record is required to be kept of the number, name, age, nationality, where from last, also the cost of each.

It was formerly the custom to place the tramps at the almshouse, but the increase in numbers was so great that provision in the basement of the Town Hall building has been made, and their connection with the pauper department entirely separated. Now the permits are given by the Selectmen instead of the Overseers of the Poor, and their expenses taken from the contingent grant. They are, or should properly come under the police department, but as the appropriation for the police is insufficient to meet the expenses they incur, we have allowed payment, as before stated, from the contingent grant. They might with as much propriety be classed as honorary members of the High School, and their expenses taken from the school grant, as to be now considered as belonging to the poor department.

ARLINGTON TAX.

It is probably well known that the town of Arlington has purchased and taken a portion of our territory, situated in

the easterly part of the town, as they claim, for water purposes, and for which they assert they are not liable for taxes, by reason of being exempted by an act of the legislature. It was believed that the inhabitants of this town would not surrender this amount of taxable property without ascertaining legally the fact, consequently the Assessors have levied a tax, amounting to \$152.22, which the town of Arlington objected to paying, and petitioned the County Commissioners for a hearing. At the time appointed for a hearing a postponement was granted, in consequence of the snow preventing an examination of the premises.

GUIDE BOARDS.

The destroying or defacing of guide boards by the malicious or thoughtless is of frequent occurrence. We have replaced those that have been reported as missing, and repaired others when necessary.

LICENSES.

We would suggest to the town the propriety of an expression as to the expediency of granting licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquors, beer or ale. The opinion is somewhat prevalent that the Selectmen, in not granting any licenses except to two hotels, did not represent the will or wish of the majority of the voters. Several applications were received for licenses to sell beer and ale, but almost, if not quite in every instance, requests or remonstrances from the neighbors of the applicants, and from others, were also received, desiring us to refuse granting such licenses.

An article will be inserted in the warrant for the annual meeting to ascertain the wish of the town as to the expediency of granting licenses.

GAMMELL LEGACY.

By the will of the late Jonas Gammell the town received a

legacy of five hundred dollars (\$500.00), the income of which was to be applied to the purchase of comforts and luxuries for the inmates at the alms house, and to be expended by a committee, consisting of two ladies, to be appointed by the Selectmen, and acting in connection with the Overseers of the Poor. We were informed by the Treasurer that this income had been accumulating, in consequence of the Selectmen heretofore having been unable to induce any ladies to accept the trust. After repeated and urgent solicitations, Mrs. L. S. Pierce and Mrs. N. W. Bryant were persuaded to carry out the provisions of the will. Their report will be found appended to this.

COAL.

The subject of purchasing coal for the supply of the town in its several departments was considered early in the season. As the coal for the schools had usually been purchased by the School Committee, an interview with the chairman of that board was had in reference to uniting and having but one contract for all. This arrangement was acceded to, and the number of tons necessary for the use of the schools was furnished us. We concluded a contract, and when commencing to put the coal in, were informed by the chairman of the school board that the School Committee had contracted for coal for the school's use. We have received and paid for the coal as we fairly contracted to do. It is now ascertained that the quantity of coal purchased by both parties will not be more than sufficient for what will be needed for the winter's use. In justice to a majority of the School Committee, we fully exonerate them from any complicity in this inexplicable transaction.

Near the close of the last annual town meeting a series of suggestions or recommendations were submitted to the town, and were accepted. These recommendations were: that all expenditures of money should be made by contract. The

impracticability of carrying out these requirements in all cases became apparent in making the attempt, in fact, if carried out to the letter, the old adage, "Penny wise and pound foolish," could be applied with truthfulness. As these suggestions did not emanate from any committee, neither were they brought before the town in any usual or proper manner, their adoption was merely an expression of those persons who happened to be present at that time, therefore they were not considered an imperative command. We have, however, endeavored to carry them out when it could be practically done. Some of the suggestions are worthy of adoption, while as a whole they would be almost useless.

POLICE.

The by-laws of the town make it imperative for the Selectmen to appoint annually two or more Police Officers. There were four appointed, two for day service and two for night service, the latter for such length of time as their services might be needed. After serving several months, quietness and good order prevailed to such an extent the night Police were discharged from further duty.

As there is no organized police department in town, we deemed it proper these officers should report to the Selectmen, from whom they derived their power. As the duties of the Police are so connected with and similar to those of the Constable, one report combines the actions of both. The number of arrests have been :

For cruelty to animals,	3
" drunkenness,	6
" stealing,	2
" assault,	1
	—
Total,	12

Neither the Constable or Police Officers have any suggestions or recommendations to offer, trusting that the good order which has prevailed the past year may continue, and that the present number of officers may be all that will be necessary to preserve the peace.

We should most assuredly be remiss in our duty if we neglected to call the especial attention of the town to the custom or habit that has become somewhat prevalent, of not calling in and paying the demands against the town before the close of the financial year, and if the grants to which these demands belong are exhausted, report the same to the town. Then, and not till then, can a correct statement of the liabilities of the town be made. It will be seen by a reference to the report of the Highway Surveyors for 1875, that a small amount of the grant remained unexpended, whereas the unpaid bills contracted, and due previous to the 1st of February, amounted to \$249.32.

It will also be seen that the same condition of affairs existed in the department of the Overseers of the Poor, only a much larger amount of unpaid bills.

There is a claim against the town held by Mr. N. L. Bryant for expenses incurred in defending a suit brought by Maurice O'Connell, Esq. This matter has been before the town twice, and each time passed over. We think the claim should be paid, notwithstanding what the future proceedings in the case may be.

The classification of the many hundred bills for payment to the proper grant, to which they belong, has frequently heretofore given rise to a difference of opinion between the Auditors and the Selectmen. The difference of opinion only changes the amount expended from one grant to another, the aggregate expenses remaining the same. The contingent grant is intended to meet cases of emergency, or demands that may arise which are not otherwise provided for. We have taken the expenses of tramps from this grant for reasons

explained in our report under the head of "Tramps." There has been drawn, also, for the payment of weights and measures, \$356.50. The payment of \$300.00, for repairs of the highways, by Mr. Cornelius Wellington, as per vote of the town, was taken from this grant. The expenses of the David Wood case, amounting to about, \$75.00, was also paid from this grant. The amount of \$250.00 for counsel fees and surveyors services, and other demands resulting from the drainage subject, has been paid. Some large drain pipe for Main street was paid for from this grant, as has been the custom when no special grant has been made. An explanation in regard to this matter may be seen by reference to the report of the Surveyors of Highways. Other expenditures from this grant will be seen in the report of the Auditors.

The town, with one accord, commemorated on the 19th of April, 1875, an event fraught with that interest that attracted the attention of the whole country. It became necessary, in order to meet the heavy demands that would be required for that occasion, to procure an act from the legislature to enable the town to assess a tax, to a limited amount. It will be seen by reference to the report of the Treasurer of the Centennial Celebration Committee, on page 10 of the Reports of 1875, that a balance of \$1736.75 remained unexpended after all demands had been paid. This amount was paid to the Town Treasurer, and by him reckoned as a part of the assets of the town. We cannot see the right or propriety of diverting or using this sum from its legitimate purpose. We do not think it can be applied to any use except that for which it was created. If our theory is correct, it should have been applied towards reducing the debt occasioned by the celebration.

A few weeks since a requisition was received from the Adjutant General of the State for the return of the arms and military equipments loaned to the town for the use of the company of Minute Men. Upon examination, a portion of

the equipments were found to be missing. The missing articles have been replaced by purchasing others, at a cost of nearly \$40.00. Quite recently another schedule of military articles borrowed from the State is called for. These were loaned to an officer of the company of Minute Men. Many of the articles called for in the last schedule are also missing. As we have been unable to gain any information in relation to the matter, it was thought advisable to call your attention to it in this manner, that those who have any knowledge respecting the procuring of these equipments will make it known, that the credit or reputation of the town may not be questioned or involved, unless it properly should be.

The expression so universally shown one year ago that we should use our best endeavors to ascertain, if possible, if the general expenses of the town could, without injury, be reduced, led us to examine the financial condition of the town for several years past. In 1872 the debt was \$58,400, in 1875, \$64,800. Notwithstanding the Treasurer's reports show 10 or 12,000 dollars paid, in and between those years towards reducing the debt, yet the debt increased \$6,400 in three years. What is the solution of this problem? The main cause of this gradual increase is owing to the practice of *exceeding* the appropriations, and carrying the excess over to the next year. If this custom is not checked, a crisis will ere long be reached that will be undesirable. It can be seen by the report of 1876 that the appropriations were exceeded to the amount of \$2,581.98, and bills of 1875 were paid in 1876 amounting to \$1,328.23; this would make the *actual* excess of expenditures in 1875, where the excess occurs, over the appropriations for the grants, \$3,905.21. We would recommend that some imperative measures be taken to compel a strict observance of the votes of the town, such, perhaps, as making the officers who allow the excess, responsible for it.

We can with pleasure state, there is not, to our knowl-

edge, at this time, an outstanding debt contracted since Feb. 1st, 1876, against the town for a single dollar. If there is, repudiation of it would be a merited rebuke for such dilatoriness.

The financial statement of the Treasurer may be considered as near a correct account of the liabilities of the town as can possibly be made.

We are gratified to state that by reference to the Treasurer's report it will be seen that the town debt has been reduced five thousand dollars (\$5,000.00) the past year.

We regret to announce an error, either of the Auditors or Treasurer, or both, in their report of 1875, which has misled the town in regard to its liabilities. It will be seen by referring to the report of 1875, page 45, that the sum of \$5,000.00 was borrowed, May 7th, 1875, of George Holden, whereas in the statement of liabilities in same report, page 16, said loan does not appear.

The town debt, Feb. 1st, 1876, was really \$64,800, instead of \$59,800, as incorrectly reported.

In the preceding pages we have briefly alluded to some of our acts pertaining to the town, also to some matters to which our attention had been called, and in which the town is interested. We regret the want of that command of language, that would have enabled us to have given a more concise or intelligible report. We, however, trust that you will consider grammatical errors or imperfectly dictated speech as a secondary consideration or of no importance.

If there are any matters connected with our duties to the town the past year, or if there is any subject in which the town is interested or connected with, which are not distinctly understood, or need explanation, we earnestly hope and desire that at the annual town meeting such explanation will be called for.

The accounts of the Town Treasurer for the quarters ending May 31st, Aug. 31st, Nov. 30th, 1876, and Jan. 31st, 1877,

were examined, and to our belief were properly vouched for and correctly kept.

As we now conclude our report, and submit the same to your thoughtful consideration, and as we review our efforts and labors for the past year, we can conscientiously assert our sole and highest aim was, and has been, for the interest and welfare of the town. If we have erred in act or judgment, or fallen short of your desires or expectations, we have no excuse to offer. All we ask is, that you will attribute our shortcomings to the weakness of the head, rather than the intention of the heart. If, in giving a synopsis of our labors, we have particularized so much as to seem egotistical, or perhaps arrogant, our only excuse is, we wished to be so explicit that the charge of indolence, deception or mismanagement might not hereafter redound upon our administration.

WEBSTER SMITH, } *Selectmen*
OTIS WENTWORTH, } *of*
ALBERT W. BRYANT, } *Lexington.*

LEXINGTON, Jan. 31st, 1877.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector of Taxes submits the following report:—

The Tax List committed for 1875 amounted to	\$45,522 88
The Supplementary List " " " "	102 56

Sum total of Taxes committed, - -	\$45,625 44
The Collector has paid into the Town Treasury,	\$44,470 81
Amount allowed for prompt payment of Taxes,	923 39
Amount abated by the Assessors, - -	231 24
	<hr/> \$45,625 44

LEXINGTON, January 26th, 1877.

We, the Selectmen of Lexington, have this day examined the accounts of I. N. Damon, Collector for the year 1875, and find them correct.

WEBSTER SMITH,	} <i>Selectmen</i>
OTIS WENTWORTH,	
A. W. BRYANT,	
	<i>of</i>
	<i>Lexington.</i>

January 31st, 1877.

Tax List committed June 16th, 1876, -	\$37,216 80
Supplementary list, - - - -	848 14

Total taxes committed, - - -	\$37,559 94
Taxes collected to date, - - -	30,060 80
Amount allowed for prompt payment, -	936 71
Uncollected Taxes less abatements to be made,	6,562 43
	<hr/> \$37 559 94

All of which is respectfully submitted.

ISAAC N. DAMON, *Collector of Taxes.*

TOWN TREASURER'S REPORT.

He charges himself with having received the following sums, derived from the hereinafter named sources, viz:

Cash on hand Esbruary 1st, 1876.	\$657 02
From the Town and Village Halls,	369 50
" " State, as Corporation Tax,	641 71
" " " " Bank Tax,	738 73
" " " " State Aid returned,	423 00
" " " " Income of Mass. School Fund,	230 15
" Taxes of 1875,	6,058 60
" Interest on Taxes of 1875, overdue,	372 70
" Temporary Loans,	14,000 00
" Taxes of 1876,	20,080 80
" Interest on Taxes of 1876, overdue,	34 59
" Licenses under the Liquor Law,	300 00
" " of Billiard Hall,	10 00
" County Treasurer, Dog Money,	369 79
" the Overseers of Poor,	1,434 08
" " Surveyors of Highways,	242 40
" " Assessments for Drainage,	47 66
" " Town Hay Scales,	43 08
" " Sale of Town Histories,	39 20
" " " " Centennial,	11 40
" " Hon. Charles Hudson,	60 00
" " School Committee, tuition of out of town scholars,	35 00
" " Boston, Lowell and Nashua Railroad Co.,	1 00
" " Town of Burlington,	3 25
" " " Methuen,	4 12
" Cash advanced,	78 73

\$56,102 51

And the Treasurer credits himself with having paid the following amounts, as shown below, viz:

By amount paid from Contingent Grant.	\$3,488 97
" " " Fire Department,	828 53
" " " from School Grant,	10,012 11
" " " Highway Grant,	4,886 29
" " " Pauper Grant,	3,244 68
" " " to the School Committee,	350 00
" " " as State Aid,	420 00
" " " to Constable and Police,	495 60
" " " as Interest,	4,191 53
" " " for Decoration Day,	81 25
" " " as Temporary Loans,	13,500 00
" " " Centennial Loan,	2,000 00
" " " Town Debt,	3,000 00
" " " for Street Lamps,	1,406 42
" " " Cary Library,	224 18
" " " Ringing Balls,	70 00
" " " to State Treasurer, under License Law,	75 00
" " " Assessors, for services,	385 00
" " " the State Tax,	2,934 00
" " " County Tax,	1,023 90
" " " Town Clerk,	100 00
" " " Sexton,	42 50
" " " new Engine House,	1,035 00
" " " for Outcasts Poor,	618 93
" " " to Collector and Treasurer,	400 00
" " " the Auditors,	21 00
" " " for Insurance,	374 50
" " " to Cary Library, Dog Money,	369 79
" " " the Interest of Gammell Legacy,	48 62
" " " for Removing Snow,	317 89
" " " to Cornelius Wellington,	200 00
	\$56,162 51

TOWN DEBT FEBRUARY 1, 1877.

DATE.	TO WHOM PAYABLE.	RATE OF INTEREST.	WHEN DUE.	AMOUNT.
July 31, 1868.	Lexington Ministerial Fund.	7 per cent. annually	On demand.	\$9,000 00
Aug. 27, 1868.	Treasurer of Cary Library	7 " " semi-annually	"	1,000 00
April 1, 1874.	Helra of George Holden	7 " " " "	For 8 years.	13,300 00
June 8, 1876.	John Pickering & Mosley	5 1/2 " " " "	" 6 " "	5,000 00
July 23, 1874.	Town of Lexington, Trus. of Gammell Legacy.	7 " " " "	"	500 00

FOR TOWN HALL AND SITE.

June 1, 1870.	State of Massachusetts.	6 per cent. semi-annually	In 20 years.	\$10,000 00
July 1, 1870.	State of Massachusetts.	6 per cent. semi-annually	In 20 years.	5,000 00
Aug. 1, 1870.	State of Massachusetts.	6 per cent. semi-annually	In 20 years.	5,000 00
Sept. 1, 1870.	State of Massachusetts.	6 per cent. semi-annually	In 20 years.	5,000 00
Feb. 28, 1871.	Treasurer of Cary Library	6 per cent. semi-annually	In 16 years.	5,000 00

CENTENNIAL LOAN.

April 1, 1875.	Richardson, Hill & Co.	6 1/2 per cent. semi-annually	April 1, 1877.	\$2,000 00
April 1, 1875.	Richardson, Hill & Co.	6 1/2 per cent. semi-annually	April 1, 1878.	2,000 00
April 1, 1875.	Richardson, Hill & Co.	6 1/2 per cent. semi-annually	April 1, 1879.	2,000 00
April 1, 1875.	Richardson, Hill & Co.	6 1/2 per cent. semi-annually	April 1, 1880.	2,000 00

Total Town Debt.....\$59,300 00

The town has due it:—

Uncollected Taxes less the abatements to be made,	\$6562 43
“ Betterment Tax for Drainage,	3768 06
Amount due from Middlesex Central Railroad,	500 00
From T. H. Rhoades,	178 42
“ S. W. Robinson Lodge,	108 00
	<hr/>
	\$11,116.91

All of which is respectfully submitted by
ISAAC N. DAMON, *Town Treasurer.*

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of the Poor for 1875-76 in their report state that they, by their experience, felt compelled to offer to their successors in office, some well timed and judicious suggestions, so that *their* administration might not be characterized with indolence. These suggestions, together with the severe criticisms and harsh accusations made at the last annual town meeting, served to call our attention especially to that department of our duty. And now after careful investigation and after collecting such information as possible together with the unbecoming conduct exhibited by some who have been connected with the Almshouse, also having been informed that card playing on the Sabbath and other acts of such a character, that modesty or common decency would forbid their being named in this report were also practiced at the Almshouse, we are drawn to the conclusion, that the criticisms indulged in were not wholly undeserved or unmerited.

In entering upon the discharge of our duty we trust we were fully impressed with the care and responsibility that must necessarily be exercised. Our highest and sole aim was to consult the interest of the town, and render the condition of the inmates as comfortable as possible, irrespective of the causes which placed them in their unfortunate condition. It mattered not to us whether they were suffering for the iniquities of their parents, even unto the third or fourth generation, or whether from their own imprudent acts. Sufficient was it for us that they were the beneficiaries of the town, and our duty was to relieve their wants as far as practicable.

On the 16th of March, 1876, the committee, chosen at the annual March meeting for that purpose, met at the Almshouse, and appraised the value of personal property belong-

ing to the town at \$2,078.97. On the 1st of February, 1877, the same committee met again at the Almshouse, and appraised the value of the personal property at \$2,180.64, as per report. Increase of property, \$101.67.

The buildings at the farm are in a tolerably good condition. The house needs some repairs, and it would be economy to paint it throughout, which we would recommend. The land, some 20 or 25 acres, is good soil, and susceptible of being made productive of grass, and it is better adapted for that than for any other purpose. We found at the commencement of the year 10 or 12 acres, perhaps more, ploughed up, and not manure enough on the premises for half that number of acres; two or three acres had been seeded to grass the previous year, some being winter killed and some in that rough condition that nothing can be realized from it until re-seeded. In fact, there was not two tons of good merchantable hay cut on the farm the past year. As the land is now sufficiently ditched for drainage, we think it would be for the interest of the town to appropriate several hundred dollars for manure and labor. Not much assistance can be expected from the inmates at the farm, and if the land be brought into a grass bearing condition, the management would be less expensive.

The practicability of keeping hogs at the Almshouse we have never been convinced or believed was for the interest of the town. We did not feel we should be justified in discontinuing keeping them at the commencement of the year, as a suitable building had been erected, and quite a number of swine were on hand, also a contract for offal made.

We, therefore, concluded to continue for another year, and carefully note the result. By reference to the report for 1875, it will be seen that the sale of pigs amounted to \$250.70, and the cost of offal and pigs purchased, \$233.50, leaving a balance of \$17.50 in favor of keeping. No mention is made of the cost of any grain or other feed excepting offal, neither is the cost of transportation taken into account.

There is but one horse at the farm, and an additional one has to be hired once every week, at a cost of \$1.50 per day, amounting to \$75.00 per year. The whole cost of teaming offal then cannot be fairly estimated at less than \$4.00 per week, or \$208.00 per year. Add this sum to the amount paid for pigs and offal (\$233.50), and the cost would be \$190.80 more than the receipts.

It should further be considered that more or less grain is necessary for young pigs, and other incidental expenses that cannot be avoided or dispensed with, so that we cannot but feel assured that even to the casual observer, the actual fact is, a loss to the town. As before stated we have carefully watched for the result of the year just closed. The sale of pigs amounts to \$395.50. The expenses have been, for teaming \$208.00. For offal and breeding sows \$195.44, for grain and fuel for cooking food, about \$50.00, making a total cost for keeping of \$453.44. Another item in keeping swine must not be overlooked, and that is the risk attendant. There is almost invariably a loss by sickness or poison. The loss the past year in consequence of poison in the offal has been nearly \$100.00. Add to this loss of \$100.00 the cost of keeping (\$453.44) and you have \$553.44. Deducting receipts, \$395.50, shows a loss of \$157.94.

And now as we leave this subject for your consideration we will again state that our convictions have been fully confirmed by experience, and that the town could purchase manure at much less cost, than by keeping swine.

We have purchased and placed in the basement of the Town Hall building a quantity of coal, designed for the use of the Outside Poor, and to be taken when wanted by the Alms House team.

An opportunity was offered and we purchased a quantity of wood (about thirty cords.) at the low price of \$4 25 per cord. We considered it a good chance to supply the Alms House and also furnish the schools for the coming year.

The increase of Pauperism in many towns has caused the

Overseers of the Poor of those towns to examine closely the history of those under their charge, and where the least possible chance is found, endeavor to place them on some other town. Demands have been made upon this town to assume the support of upwards of twenty individuals the past year. After close examination of the records of the town, and such other facts as could be obtained, not one valid or legal settlement could be maintained, consequently the claim for support in every instance has been successfully resisted. The application for assistance from what is termed Outside Poor is becoming so frequent and so persistently claimed, that the most rigid scrutiny is necessary to avoid imposition. It is a question that demands reflection whether it would not be for the interest of the town to transfer some who are receiving continuous assistance to the Alms House.

With the number now at the Alms House, and the helpless condition of some, and these becoming still more so from day to day, no reduction in the expenses the coming year can be reasonably expected. We recommend the sum of \$2000.00 be appropriated for the support of the poor the ensuing year.

On the 6th day of March last when the town voted the sum of \$2000.00 for the support of the Poor the ensuing year, the sum of \$701 07 had already been drawn. Of this sum \$574.81 was for outstanding demands contracted the previous year, and properly chargeable to the support of the poor for that year. This amount from the appropriation of this year lessened the grant so much, and as we desired to keep within the appropriation if possible, we were compelled to curtail many improvements that the farm required. A reference to the report of 1875 will show that the support of the poor cost \$1041.56 more than the appropriation. This amount should be \$1616.81, for the amount \$574.81 rightly belongs with the expenses of the year ending Feb. 1st, 1876, as the demands representing this amount were presented previous to that date.

We would recommend that an examination of the property at the Alms House be made by the Overseers when a change of Superintendent takes place, that the difficulty which we experienced on the first of April last may be obviated. We were unable to find a large quantity of articles which were represented as being there when the appraisal was made by the Committee, and contained in their schedule. Being convinced that a close supervision over the the affairs at the Alms House was indispensable, one of our board has made it a practice to visit the Alms House semi-weekly, and oftener when necessary. The others of the board have visited as necessity required or circumstances would permit.

In the month of May last a Committee consisting of two ladies was appointed by the Selectmen in accordance with the requirements of the will of the late Jonas Gammell. They have visited the Alms-house from time to time as occasion or necessity required and furnished such comforts and luxuries as the will contemplated and they deemed proper. Their report will be found in its proper place.

As the financial year draws near its close, and we look retrospectively over the past, and review our efforts to render the condition of those under our supervision as pleasant as circumstances would permit, we cannot but feel assured that those efforts have not been wholly useless or in vain. It is with much pleasure we speak of those ladies and gentlemen, who have frequently visited the Almshouse the past year, who were not connected with the inmates by the ties of consanguinity or otherwise, and whose presence, together with their many presents, could but serve to dispel many a gloomy thought, and render time more pleasant, with the assurance they were still kindly remembered.

We are also gratified to report that the discipline and conduct of all connected with the Almshouse the past year has been entirely harmonious and seemingly pleasant.

There have been no deaths the past year, and very little

sickness. The services of a physician have only twice been needed. There are six persons now at the Almshouse whose united age is four hundred and seventy years. The oldest person is eighty-seven years, and the youngest four years.

Appraisal of Personal property at the Almshouse by the Committee:—

Valuation of Personal Property March 26, 1876,	\$2,078.97
Valuation of Personal Property Feb. 1st, 1877,	2,180.64
Increase in value,	101.67

Amount paid for support of Poor,	\$3,853.09
Less increase in value personal property,	\$101.67
“ received from income of farm,	1,419.38
“ Outside Poor expenses,	527.58
“ bills of 1875 paid from grant of 1876,	574.81
	<u>\$2,623.44</u>

Cost of support of Poor at the Almshouse,	\$1,229.65
---	------------

There has been furnished 570 weeks' board, at a cost of \$2.14 per week. This does not include the board of the Superintendent and family, as some previous reports have shown.

Whole number of paupers at the Almshouse during the year was 20; four of this number remained but one night, and worked sufficiently to pay their expenses. Average number, 11; present number, 11.

WEBSTER SMITH,	} Overseers of Poor.
OTIS WENTWORTH,	
ALBERT W. BRYANT,	

LEXINGTON, January 31st, 1877.

APPRAISED VALUE OF PROPERTY AT THE POOR FARM, UNDER THE CHARGE OF THE OVERSEERS OF THE POOR, FEB. 1st, 1877:

28 1-2 cords of wood, \$157; 15 tons coal, \$120;	
5 axes, 2 baskets, 2.75,	\$279 75
1 gray mare, 225; 1 cow, 40; 1 heifer, 20,	285 00

2 1-2 tons English hay, \$55; 3 1-2 tons m. hay,	
56; 1-2 ton rye straw, 11	122 00
5 ladders, 5; hay cutter, 2; 1 cart, 47.50; cart harness, 7,	61 50
1 express harness, 14; 1 pair harnesses, 27; hames and chains, 2,	43 00
4 hay forks, 3 rakes, 2 scoop shovels, 4.80; 6 lanterns, 5,	9 30
1 m. chest, 3; 4 b. meal, 5.20; 3 collars, curry comb and brush, 2 50,	10 70
1 whip, 3 wrenches, 4 tie chains, 4 stake chains,	6 00
3 sleds, 39; 1 express wagon, 75; 1 hay wagon, 20; 1 swill wagon, 25.	159 00
150 fowls, 105; 2 wheel barrows, 7; 1 pung, 5; 1 harness and stove, 7,	124 00
4 casks, 2; 10 sows with pig, 3 other swine, 2 pigs,	333 00
2 cultivators, 2 plows, parts of harness, 40 flour barrels,	30 75
Shovels, hoes, forks, rakes, picks and other tools.	29 10

PROVISIONS IN HOUSE.

3-4 barrel flour, 140 lbs. sugar, 50 lbs. tea, 3 bus. beans, 20 lbs. lard, meal, molasses, ham, butter, 7 1-2 bbls. apples, 125 bus. potatoes, 70 gals. vinegar, 1 bbl. pork, 1-2 bbl. soap, value of which is	228 05
Value of furniture, cooking utensils, and other articles in the house, which is neat and in good condition,	559 49

	<u>\$2,280 64</u>
Appraised value of real estate,	\$6,000 00

JOHN. P. REED,	} Appraisers.
CHARLES BLODGETT,	
JOHN D. BACON,	

LEXINGTON, JAN. 31 1877.

TO THE SELECTMEN OF LEXINGTON:

GENTLEMEN:

At your special request, made to us in May last, stating your inability to induce any one to accept the trust of uniting with the Overseers of the Poor in furnishing "comforts and luxuries" to the inmates of the Alms House, as required by the will of the late Jonas Gammell, after some hesitation we accepted the position, with the hope that hereafter no difficulty would be experienced in procuring others to assist in carrying out so benevolent and praiseworthy an object. The delay that has hitherto been experienced in carrying out so charitable an aspiration as that which prompted Mr. Gammell to bequeath the income of five hundred dollars for the benefit of the inmates of the Alms House, ought not to be for the want of a Committee. Immediately after our acceptance of your request we visited the Alms House and ascertained from personal observation what would conduce to the happiness and comfort of the inmates. Some were in want of clothing that might not be so necessary as to require the town to furnish it. We procured such clothing and have continued to do so when needed. We also furnished on the Fourth of July a dinner together with fruit, confectionery and some fireworks for the children. At Thanksgiving and Christmas we again supplied them with turkeys, puddings and other luxuries which

served to make a repast that they would not otherwise have enjoyed. We doubt not that the memory of Mr. Gammell, will ever be cherished and held in grateful remembrance by those who have been the recipients of his thoughtful care for their happiness.

The income derived from the fund to date	
amounts to	\$87 50
The amount expended is	\$49 52
Balance in the hands of the Treasurer,	\$37 88

We certainly should be remiss in our duty were we not to speak in praise of the matron at the Alms House, after witnessing her uniform kindness and devotion to the wants and requirements of those under her charge. We think it would have been impossible for the town to have found a person who could have manifested a greater interest for their welfare or who could more sincerely have won their regard,

With the assurance we feel that our labors have in some slight degree contributed to alleviate the condition of those in the Alms House, please accept our thanks for the confidence you reposed in us.

Yours Respectfully,

MRS. L. S. PIERCE,
MRS. N. W. BRYANT.

HIGHWAY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

In no department of the town's duties is the community at large more interested than the highways, neither is there any department where there is a greater diversity of opinion existing as to the best method to be adopted in regard to repairs.

With this fact in view, it was with extreme reluctance we assumed the immediate control or direct supervision of the repairs of highways, instead of pursuing the course of last year.

At the time we issued a notice for proposals for a Superintendent of Highways, in March last, we had not the slightest idea of adopting the course we have, which was the result of a combination of circumstances.

In the first place, the committee which had been chosen to appraise the property belonging to the highway department, gave us a schedule of the property. By this we learned there was only one horse, and also, upon examination, we found that the carts needed repairing, and some of the harnesses were unfit for use. It was therefore necessary, before commencing work, to purchase two horses, repair the carts, and purchase a part of two harnesses, at an estimated cost of \$400.00.

Upon referring to the town record, we found the sum of \$242.40 had already been drawn from the treasury, and for the most part to pay bills contracted *previous* to this financial year, but should not have been taken illegally, as it was, from the grant for this. By the almost unprecedented rainstorm of March 21st, several culverts were damaged to the estimated amount of \$1,000.00. These several sums taken

from the \$8,000.00, which was the appropriation for repairs of highways, left only \$1,357.60 to be expended for the repairs of sixty-five miles of road.

When the proposals for the office of Superintendent were examined, the applicants, with one or two exceptions, were not experienced enough, in our judgment, to receive the office. Those that were experienced were so high in price, we deemed it unwise to employ them, inasmuch as complying with their terms would take one-third of the amount remaining after the foregoing named demands were paid.

Furthermore, with no assurance, after the expression of the town at the March meeting, that it would add to the appropriation, we considered it advisable to pursue the course we have, by one of the board taking upon himself the especial duty of employing experienced men, who had worked for the town in the past, and his almost daily supervision over them.

On the 22nd of March, the day after the great rainstorm, an experienced stone mason was engaged to relay the culverts at once. Upon examination, he gave it as his opinion that it would be useless to attempt to make a thorough and permanent repair until after the subsidence of the water. Before this took place two more rainstorms followed, and not only caused still more damage, but a further postponement of repairs. Finding there would be much longer delay than anticipated, we made application to the County Commissioners for permission to close the Bedford road, which request was readily granted. We regretted the seemingly unnecessary delay to those unacquainted with the facts, and the inconvenience which the traveling community were compelled to endure. As one culvert which was washed out had only been in two or three years, it was desirable it might be rebuilt, if possible, so that no further expense on it might occur for a long time. The total expense occasioned by the storm was \$1050.

In accordance with the heretofore expressed wish of the town, that the Surveyors of Highways report somewhat in detail, we cheerfully acquiesce in that desire, and allude to some matters, which, in pursuing our duties in this department, have been made of interest and perhaps importance.

The open winter of 1875-76 as it is termed, and the absence of snow, caused the roads to be badly cut up and very much out of repair. So clamorous were the demands for repairs to be made at once, that we were obliged to employ some of the residents in the outskirts of the town to make such temporary repairs as were absolutely necessary, until such time as the town teams and men could more efficiently attend to them. We have deviated from the invariable custom of former years in procuring gravel and other materials for use. We have endeavored to cut down the elevations and high places along the roads when practicable, instead of using from the gravel banks. In this way nearly 3000 loads of gravel have been obtained and the grade reduced. If this course is continued in the future, our roads will gradually become more level and less expensive to keep in repair.

It has been the practice heretofore when a new culvert was needed to bring the subject before the town, and ask for an appropriation. While repairing Main street in East Lexington, it was found that a culvert would have to be put in, under and across the street, to relieve the overflow of water which had been a source of much trouble and annoyance.

To avoid a threatened prosecution or an appeal to the County Commissioners for redress, it was essential it should be done at once. We were therefore compelled to either assume the responsibility of purchasing the drain pipe, and paying for it out of the contingent grant, as in nearly every instance had been done, or call a town meeting. As the cost of the pipe was only \$60, while the expense of a town meeting would be three or four times that amount, we adopted

the former course. All the labor in putting in was paid for from the Highway grant.

In June last, the horse which was purchased the previous year, died, not perhaps altogether unexpectedly, as he, we were informed, had always been subject to attacks, resembling the colic. In one of these attacks he died. This necessitated the purchase of another.

We learned by the report of last year that the town teams, (which teams consisted of one colicky horse, and a cart) had been employed from Dec. 1st in moving gravel from the Simonds pit to a convenient point on Bedford street. While repairing that street we searched for that "convenient point," but whether we found the real point or not we do not know. We found a pile of gravel, which upon removal amounted to ninety loads. We will not recommend to our successors to follow this example, for fear their experience might coincide with ours, which was that the expense of the teams, and the labor required to keep them at work, from Dec. 1st 1875 to April 1st, 1876, was \$263.88. The product of their work was moving the enormous quantity of ninety (90) loads of gravel to a "convenient point."

The removal of snow is a matter, upon which if an expression from the town could be given, then an understanding would exist which would relieve the surveyors from much annoyance. The law requires that the public thoroughfares shall be made safe for travel within a specified time after obstructed, but does not require the *clearing of sidewalks*; this has been assumed as a part of the duties of the Surveyors, when it could be done at small expense with snow ploughs; but when drifted and frozen as it has been the past winter, the expense would be so large, if all the sidewalks were kept clear, that we believed the town would not sustain us in doing it, as no appropriation was made for that purpose. This subject we hope will receive the attention of the town when making an appropriation for highways at the annual meeting,

that the difference of opinion may be removed, and the duties of the Surveyors made more definite.

When a statement is submitted to the town by any of its officers, such statement is presumed to be correct.

In the excellent report of the Surveyors of Highways for 1875, they state there remains \$9.48 of the appropriation unexpended. This statement must be considered a *fact*, or not a *fact*. In a record book kept by the Selectmen, and designed and used for recording and numbering all bills passed for payment, on Page 77, there were recorded in December 1875, and January 1876, bills amounting to \$135.34 approved for payment. In the same book on Page 96, in Feb. 1877, these same identical bills are again recorded. Now if these bills as recorded in December and January were paid, the Highway grant would have been overdrawn upwards of \$130; if they were not paid until Feb. 1876, then these bills were outstanding demands against the highway department for 1876. We presume the Auditors, whose duty it is to audit the accounts, will in their forthcoming report explain and solve this remarkable enigma.

The choosing of a committee at the last annual town meeting for the purpose of appraising the property belonging to the Highway department, was a very wise and judicious proceeding.

The remarkable fluctuations in the value of the property in the short space of time of only a month, as sometimes shown in the reports, will not be so likely to occur, neither will the tempting opportunity be presented to *doctor* the appraisal so as to make a good exhibit.

The committee chosen for the purpose appraised the property March 16, 1876, at \$584.80; Feb. 1st, 1877, at \$1153.95; increase in value, \$569.15.

A schedule of the appraisal as submitted to us will be appended to this report.

In compliance with the many requests we have received

that we give a plain and direct statement of the real expenses of the highways for the past year, also the expenses for the year 1875, we submit the following exhibit:

It will be seen by the Auditor's report of 1875, that the appropriation for highways was		\$4,500 00
Received from other sources		483 15
Total,		\$4,983 15
Expended (as per report,)		4,973 67
Repairing on Waltham street—special appropriation,		511 25
Improvements on Main street, paid from contingent grant,		406 20
Improvements on Lowell street “ from contingent grant,		145 53
Improvements on Wood street “ from contingent grant,		128 98
Relaying drain near the cemetery,		52 83
Bills due and paid this year,		249 81
		\$6,468 27
Appropriation for 1876,		5,000 00
Expended,		4,895 29
Deduct expense of culverts, \$1,050 00		
“ “ “ purchasing horses and harnesses,		600 00
Deduct bills paid, due prior to Feb. 1st, 1876,		*249 81
Deduct credits,		242 40
		\$2,142 21
Actual expense for labor and incidentals for the year ending January 31st, 1877,		\$2,753 08

Three hundred dollars was taken from the contingent grant this year, and expended as per vote of the town November, 1875 by Mr. Cornelius Wellington.

*This sum was erroneously stated on page 81 as \$242 40.

In procuring labor we deemed it advisable to reduce the price per day as was generally the expectation. When our intention was announced much indignation was expressed and some not very mild epithets were applied to us. We, however, had no difficulty in engaging all the help that was required, but refused many who thought themselves wrongfully used by not being engaged in place of those who had been employed in the past. The reduction per day was 25 cents. The price paid (\$1.50) was more than was paid in adjoining towns.

It is believed that the roads are in good condition, and as the snow the past winter has served to keep them so, and as the horses, carts, harnesses and tools are all ready for immediate service without the outlay of a single dollar, that a sum not exceeding \$3000 will be amply sufficient to meet all necessary expenses.

WEBSTER SMITH, } Highway
OTIS WENTWORTH, }
ALBERT W. BRYANT, } Surveyors.

LEXINGTON, Jan. 31st, 1877.

APPRAISED VALUE OF PROPERTY AT THE POOR FARM UNDER
CHARGE OF THE HIGHWAY SURVEYORS, FEB 1ST, 1877.

3 horses, \$675; 4 carts, \$140; wagon, \$40,	\$855 00
3 cart harnesses, 69; wagon harness, 10,	79 00
2 lead harnesses, 10; 2 collars, 6; 3 halters, 1.50,	17 50
1 plough, 5; 2 snow ploughs, 60; whiffletrees and eveners, 4,	69 00
1 currycomb and brush, wrench, hammer and axe,	3 75
Powder, can and fuse, 2; grain chest 4; 6 bags meal, 7.80,	13 80
5 snow shovels, 6.25; 8 picks, 10; 4 grub hoes, 4,	20 25
1 post spoon, water pail and can, 2.50; 2 bush scythes, 1.50,	4 00
Rope, sweat collar, 2 bags, 1.50; 3 chains, 2.50,	4 00
2 crow bars, 2.50; hoe and rake, .50; 12 old shovels, .70,	3 70
11 shovels, 8.80; 71 lbs. steel, 10.65; tined hoe, .75,	20 20
2 drilling hammers, 5; 5 stone hammers, 6.25,	11 25
3 stone pickers, 1.50; 1 tool chest, 5; 1 gutter scraper, 5,	11 50
1 gravel screen, 1; 1 stone drag, 6,	7 00
3 old cart harnesses, 9; 2 horse blankets, 5,	14 00
150 posts, 12; 1-2 M. lumber, 8,	20 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,153 95

JOHN. P REED,
CHARLES BLODGETT, } Appraisers.
JOHN D. BACON,

REPORT OF THE ENGINEERS OF THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Engineers of the Fire Department report the apparatus of the department in good working order.

Last spring the new engine house on Merriam street was occupied, but as the building was found incomplete in many particulars an additional outlay was needed to provide for washing and hoisting hose, storage for wood and coal, closets for chemicals, &c. These arrangements were indispensable for the care of engines and apparatus. The second story of the building is yet unfinished.

The Adams engine has been repainted and her suction hose, which at the fire of Aug. 31, was found to be leaky and worthless, has been replaced by new. If this engine had been in charge of an organized company, it would have been out at different times on trial, the imperfect condition of the hose would have been discovered and attended to, and this engine could have saved much property at the above fire which was destroyed, instead of being almost unserviceable. At this fire the Chemical engine proved a valuable addition to the department.

In the Department we have 1,100 feet of leading hose, (500 feet at the Center and 600 feet at East Village,) 450 feet, size 2 1-2 inch, is good, the remainder, size 2 inch, has been in service nineteen years.

The necessity of building reservoirs in locations in both villages where property is unprotected, the Engineers need not call attention to, as the citizens of the town are well aware of this need.

No. of fires, 5. May 15, Mr. Lombard's barn in East Lexington. May 25, Buildings on Paint Farm. August 31, Goddard's and Chisholm's shops. October 12, house of J. Richardson. December 19, fire in C. Blanchard's barn, which was extinguished with slight loss.

Total loss, \$20,000. Insurance, \$15,000.

OTIS WENTWORTH, } *Engineers*
BENJ. HADLEY, } *of*
HENRY A. TURNER, } *Fire Dept.*

LEXINGTON, Feb. 1, 1877.

TOWN OFFICERS FOR 1876-7.

TOWN CLERK.

LEONARD A. SAVILLE.

SELECTMEN.

WEBSTER SMITH, OTIS WENTWORTH,
ALBERT W. BRYANT.

TREASURER AND COLLECTOR.

ISAAC N. DAMON.

ASSESSORS.

J. F. SIMONDS. WALTER WELLINGTON,
H. B. DAVIS.

AUDITORS.

F. E. WETHERELL, GERSHOM SWAN.

CONSTABLE.

ELI SIMONDS.

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

WILLIAM PLUMER, Term expires March, 1877.
REV. E. S. ELDER, { Appointed to fill vacancy
caused by resignation.
WILLIAM R. CUTTER, Term expires March, 1879.

FENCE VIEWERS.

HOWLAND HOLMES, B. T. BATCHELLER,
LORIN WETHERELL.

FIELD DRIVERS.

A. N. TUFTS, DAVID FITCH.

COMMITTEE ON CEMETERIES.

WARREN DUREN,	Term expires March, 1877.
CHAS. HUDSON,	" " " 1878.
LORIN WETHERELL,	" " " 1879.

WEIGHER, AND SUPERINTENDENT OF TOWN SCALES.

L. A. SAVILLE.

WEIGHER OF HAY AND COAL.

R. W. HOLBROOK.

MEASURERS OF WOOD AND BARK.

L. A. SAVILLE, A. CHILDS,
H. B. DAVIS.

SEALER OF WEIGHTS AND MEASURES.

ALONZO GODDARD.

SEXTON.

O. W. KENDALL.

POLICE OFFICERS.

GUSTAVE KAUFFMAN, HENRY WELLINGTON.

AUCTIONEER.

P. P. PIERCE.

REPORTS

OF THE

TOWN OFFICERS

OF THE

TOWN OF LEXINGTON,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 1877.

BOSTON:
FRANK WOOD, PRINTER, 322 WASHINGTON STREET.
1877.

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

The Collector of Taxes submits the following report:—

The Tax List committed for 1875 amounted to	\$45,522 88
Supplementary List,	102 56
Sum total of Taxes committed,	\$45,625 44
The Collector has paid into the Town Treasury,	\$44,470 81
Amount allowed for prompt payment of Taxes,	922 39
Amount abated by the Assessors,	231 24
	\$45,625 44

Lexington, Jan. 26, 1877.

We, the undersigned, Selectmen of Lexington, have this day examined the accounts of I. N. Damon, Collector for the year 1875, and find them correct.

WEBSTER SMITH,
OTIS WENTWORTH, } *Selectmen of Lexington.*
A. W. BRYANT,

Tax List committed June 16th, 1876, amounted to	\$37,316 80
Supplementary List,	343 14
Total Taxes committed,	\$37,559 94
Taxes collected to date, Jan. 31st, 1877,	\$30,000 00
Amount allowed for prompt payment,	936 71
Amount to be collected less the abatements to be made,	6,502 43
	\$37,559 94

All of which is respectfully submitted by

ISAAO N. DAMON, *Collector of Taxes.*

ASSESSORS' REPORT.

In compliance with a vote of the town, the Assessors submit the following statistics:

VALUATION MAY 1, 1876.

Resident owners of Real Estate,	\$2,071,484 00
Non-resident owners of Real Estate,	386,412 00
Resident owners of Personal Estate,	486,817 00
Non-resident owners of Personal Estate,	33,520 00

Total valuation, \$2,978,233 00

Total number of Polls, 739

State Tax,	\$2,934 00
County Tax,	1,023 90
Town Grants,	32,592 30
Overlaysings,	666 80

Total amount of Tax, \$37,316 80

We would recommend the sum of Four Hundred Dollars for the expenses of this department for the ensuing year.

JOSEPH F. SIMONDS,
WALTER WELLINGTON, } *Assessors*
HORACE B. DAVIS, } *for*
1876.

STATISTICS.

YEAR.	POPULA- TION.	NUMBER OF FOLLS.	VALUATION.	RATE OF TAX.	TOWN GRANT.	STATE TAX.	COUNTY TAX.
1800	1,006	319	\$356,052	\$8 09 on \$1,000	\$12,932 87	\$497 50	\$1,449 93
1810	1,052	304	310,967	"	12,075 81	605 00	1,760 47
1820	1,200	308	324,389	"	14,890 00	3,639 00	1,494 06
1830	1,643	368	247,466	"	12,915 00	4,848 00	1,494 06
1840	1,643	489	561,549	"	19,337 00	4,848 00	1,494 06
1850	1,963	523	1,899,453	"	18,530 00	8,319 00	1,983 51
1860	2,339	531	1,782,145	"	18,110 00	5,310 00	1,407 35
1861	2,329	616	1,762,037	"	17,000 00	8,860 00	1,576 94
1863	2,339	624	1,745,044	"	23,315 00	3,540 00	1,632 53
1864	2,329	624	1,832,244	"	19,839 00	4,495 00	1,800 41
1865	2,323	635	1,687,348	"	24,275 00	4,495 00	1,801 41
1866	2,323	635	1,670,983	"	31,748 00	3,000 00	1,739 67
1867	2,323	635	1,701,355	"	41,875 00	3,375 00	1,922 72
1868	2,323	635	1,770,468	"	35,580 68	3,000 00	2,052 89
1869	2,323	635	1,999,137	"	40,598 30	3,000 00	1,924 88
1870	2,323	635	1,866,876	"	32,593 30	3,934 00	1,623 90
1871	2,377	629	2,254,531	"			
1872	2,377	618	2,394,750	"			
1873	2,389	636	2,636,011	"			
1874	2,386	706	2,863,385	"			
1875	2,425	731	2,948,424	"			
1876	2,510	736	2,972,711	"			
1876	2,510	739	2,978,223	"			

The valuation prior to 1840 was made on a basis different from that on which it has since been made.

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.

BIRTHS

Registered in Lexington from Jan. 1, 1876, to Jan. 1, 1877.

Whole number of Births, 41; Males 21, Females 20.

Born of American parents, 17; foreign parentage, 18; mixed parentage, 6.

MARRIAGES

Registered in Lexington from Jan. 1, 1876, to Jan. 1, 1877.

Whole number of Marriages, 19. Both American, 11; both foreign, 4;
American and foreign, 4.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
January 5.....	John Kane..... Nora Hayes.....	Lexington.
January 19.....	Michael O'Brien, 2nd..... Bridget Callahan.....	Lexington. Arlington.
February 27.....	Michael Henchy, 2nd..... Bridget Geoghegan.....	Lexington.
April 13.....	James Ernest Crone..... Helen Agnes Dooley.....	Lexington.
April 19.....	Cyrus Martin..... Mary A. Beverstook.....	Lexington.
April 29.....	Silas L. Cummings..... Mary Chase.....	Lexington. E. Cambridge.
June 20.....	T. Lyman Russell..... Eva C. Bacon.....	Cambridge. Lexington.
June 27.....	Joshua V. Ramsdell..... Martha Henderson.....	Newton. Lexington.

MARRIAGES—Continued.

DATE.	NAMES.	RESIDENCE.
June 23.....	Charles Hastings..... Sarah M. Berry.....	Lexington. Marlboro.
August 8.....	David Hall..... Susan R. Ensworth.....	Lexington. Winsor, Vt.
August 15.....	Michael Barry..... Bridget Welch.....	Lexington. "
September 14....	Lysander W. Mason..... Annie F. Turner.....	Augusta, Me. "
September 14....	Eugene Conant..... Eveline Perry.....	Concord. "
October 23.....	Thomas Galvin..... Ellen Crowley.....	Arlington. Lexington.
November 11....	Geo. Arthur Paine..... Maria C. Bliss.....	Lexington. "
November 11....	Charles Hutchinson..... Mary Hanley.....	Lexington. "
December 12....	Albert N. Tufts..... Mary T. Locke.....	Lexington. West Medford.
December 26....	Francis J. Winship..... Rachael P. McKeen.....	Lexington. "
December 29....	Charles O. Wentworth..... Susie Augusta Capelle.....	Lexington. "

DEATHS

Registered in Lexington from Jan. 1, 1876, to Jan. 1, 1877.

DATE.	NAME.	AGE.			PLACE OF DEATH.	PLACE OF BIRTH.
		Yrs.	Mos.	Days.		
Jan'y 12	Nathan Reed	60			Lexington	Burlington.
Feb'y 7	Anna Maria Caffrey	18		18	"	Lexington.
" 7	Franklin M. Harrington	38	7		"	"
" 12	Jonathan Locke	55	8		Medford.	"
" 14	Thomas Donovan	4	19		Lexington.	"
March 7	Mary F. Adams	25	11		"	Bedford.
" 11	Katie Horrigan	16	11		"	Lexington.
" 15	Mary Hanley	45			"	Ireland.
" 21	Nora Mansfield	8	5	9	"	Lexington.
" 22	Euib E. Thurston	11	4	12	"	"
" 23	Allice L. Hadley	4	8		"	"
" 27	A. A. Frazor	71	10	6	"	Duxbury.
" 27	Catherine Gorman	8			"	Ireland.
" 28	Esther Gorman	10			"	"
" 29	Ann Gorman	8		7	"	"
April 6	Willie E. Lowe	4	9	22	"	Lexington.
" 7	Rebecca Cooke	28	1		"	Arlington.
" 12	Rebecca E. Smith	76	5		M. G. Hos.	Lexington.
" 14	Harriet Mills	72	8		Lexington.	Nova Scotia.
May 2	Elizabeth Abbott	4			"	Lexington.
" 5	Anna Abbott	12	9		"	"
" 6	Frank Abbott	6	7		"	"
" 7	Jane Abbott	9	4		"	"
" 14	Caroline R. Jewett	49	6		"	"
" 28	Almon Evans	67	10	13	"	Langdon, N. H.
" 30	Michael E. Hurley	16	11		"	Lexington.
June 11	Lorenzo Burbank	72	3	11	"	"
" 25	Mary H. Hall	54	10	20	"	"
" 30	Edith Ballard	10	14		"	"
July 2	Marion E. Wellington	9	9		"	"
" 11	Arthur E. Wellington	5	11	15	"	"
" 18	Charles Sumner Kneeland	1	9	11	"	"
" 19	Thomas Dorothy	2	7		"	Boston.
" 21	Mary Ann Harrington	3	20		"	Lexington.
" 21	Oscar Buttrick	18	11	21	"	"
" 22	Harriet H. Smith	81	1	10	"	"
" 23	Emily J. Haggood	10	2		"	"
Aug. 4	Eliza H. Wright	64	8	10	"	Walpole, N. H.
" 10	Olive A. Wentworth	39	10		"	Kittery, Me.
" 19	A. Alfred Adams	13	5		"	Bedford.
Sept. 2	Lydia S. Spaulding	55	9		"	Lexington.
" 6	Susan C. Wood	22			"	Newburyport.
Oct. 2	Sally D. Viles	80	11	16	"	Lexington.
Dec. 1	Matthews	0	0	0	"	"
" 2	Rose Ellen Matthews	81			"	Ireland.
" 12	Mary Jane Donovan	10	8		"	Lexington.

Whole No. of deaths, 46. Males, 18; females, 28. No. 60 years of age and upwards, 11. No. under 5 years of age, 10. No. over 80 years of age, 4.

DISEASES.—Bowel Complaint, 1. Bronchitis, 1. Cholera Infantum, 3. Cancer, 2. Convulsions, 1. Consumption, 8. Diphtheria, 14. Dropsy, 2. Drowning, 2. Erysipelas, 1. Fever, 3. Heart Disease, 1. Old Age, 4. Rheumatism, 1. Unknown, 2.

TOWN HISTORIES.

No. of Town Histories sold from Jan. 31, 1876, to Jan. 31, 1877, . . .	28
Donated and exchanged for other books,	3
No. on hand Jan. 31, 1877,	274
No. copies on hand by Lee & Shepard, Boston, 39 bound volumes; 23 copies in sheets.	

No. of volumes of History of Lexington Centennial on hand Jan. 31, 1876,	266
Donated and exchanged for other books,	41
No. sold by Town Clerk, to Jan. 31, 1877,	11
No. on hand Jan. 31, 1877,	234

DOGS.

No. of Dogs licensed for 1876,	196
Amount returned to County Treasurer for Dog licenses,	\$376 80

Compiled from Town records.

LEONARD A. SAVILLE, *Town Clerk.*

CARY LIBRARY.

The Trustees of the Cary Library report that the number of bound volumes in the Library, January 31st, 1877, was 5,104. 500 volumes were added during the past year; 472 by purchase, and 28 by donations. The names of the donors are, Rev. C. Nightingale, 15 vols.; U. S. Government, 8 vols.; Hon. C. Hudson, 4 vols.; and one volume from each of the following: A. T. Perkins; Rev. E. G. Porter; Hon. R. O. Winthrop; J. Warren Cotton; City of Boston, and City of Newton. Pamphlets have been given by S. A. Green, M. D., and Rev. E. G. Porter.

The number of volumes taken from the Library during the past year was 20,748, being an increase in the circulation over that of the previous year of about 20 per cent.

At the annual examination, the books were found to be in good condition.

During the past year there has been presented to the Library a section of the "Old Elm" from Boston Common, by Clinton Viles, Esq., of Boston; a portrait of Mr. W. H. Cary, by Mrs. W. H. Cary; a portrait of Mrs. W. H. Cary, by citizens of Lexington; portraits of H. W. Longfellow and W. C. Bryant, by Messrs. Hurd & Houghton, Cambridge; a piece of the Washington Elm and a piece of the "Spreading Chestnut Tree," from Cambridge, by Rev. A. B. Muzzey, Cambridge; and a marble bust of Theodore Parker, by relatives and friends.

There have been loaned to the Library, by Mr. O. L. Hancock and Brothers of Boston, portraits of Rev. John Hancock, the second pastor of the Church in Lexington, and of his wife.

HENRY WESTCOTT,

For the Trustees.

CARY LIBRARY TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Cary Library debits himself as follows :

Note of town of Lexington, Feb. 28, 1871, 6 per cent.,	\$5,000 00
Note of town of Lexington, Aug. 29, 1868, 7 per cent.,	1,000 00
Deposit in Lexington Savings Bank,	654 79
" " " " " Interest,	33 73
Cash received of former Treasurer, May 29, 1876,	90
" " Fines,	34 00
" " Interest on Notes,	185 00
	<hr/>
	\$6,908 41

And credits himself with :

Payment for books,	\$490 38
On account of expenses,	89 39
By Notes and Deposit Books,	6,256 51
By Cash on hand at date,	70 16
	<hr/>
	\$6,908 41

W. R. CUTTER, *Treasurer.*

LEXINGTON, February 1, 1877.

CEMETERY COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

The Committee having charge of the Cemetery respectfully report that they have attempted no radical improvement in the Cemetery the past year. With the small fund at their disposal, they have deemed it wiser to devote the interest to keeping the yard in a neat condition than to expend the principal in some undertaking they could not complete; and which, if completed, could not be kept in repair. Some have suggested that the avenues should be graded and good gravel walks should be constructed; but your Committee have failed to see the wisdom of such an undertaking.

In the first place, our funds would not be sufficient to carry out such a plan if it were undertaken; and in the next place, we do not believe that it would be any improvement; certainly not unless we had funds sufficient to keep a man constantly in the yard to keep the avenues and walks free from grass and weeds, and to water them in dry weather to keep down the dust. We believe that a country cemetery like ours, with avenues covered with grass, well mown down, is in better taste, and would be more acceptable to the people than graveled avenues. The notices which we generally see where gravel paths are made—WALKING ON THE GRASS IS FORBIDDEN—show the preference generally given to a grass plat over a graveled road.

Knowing that nothing disfigures a cemetery so readily as wild grass and weeds, we have taken the precaution to have the grass and weeds cut once, and when it became necessary, twice a year. This, with other incidentals, has just about exhausted the interest on the money in bank. But if we should appropriate the principal to graveled walks and graded avenues, we should be compelled to let the yard become overrun with wild grass and Roman wormwood. If the town would make an appropriation adequate to the object, and employ a man to devote his entire time to the yard through the working season, we should like to see certain improvements made;

but, with her present indebtedness, we do not feel authorized to ask the town for any pecuniary aid.

We are happy to see that the owners of lots are generally taking an increased interest in the Cemetery, and every year bears witness to the improvements which are being made.

The settlement with the Superintendent which is appended will show the financial condition of the Committee.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

CHARLES HUDSON, } Committee
WARREN DUREN, } on the
LORIN WETHERELL, } Cemetery.

The Committee, in settling with O. W. Kendall, Superintendent of the Cemetery, find that he has collected since the last settlement \$151, and has paid out \$80.82, which leaves a balance, when added to the balance at the last settlement, of \$420.18; \$400 of which appears on the Committee's Bank Book, and the remaining \$20.18 is left in the hands of the Superintendent.

There is also about \$100 due on lots, nearly all of which is deemed good.

LEXINGTON, January 31, 1877.

O. W. Kendall, in account with the Town of Lexington, from Feb. 1, 1876, to Feb. 1, 1877:

<i>Dr.</i>		
To Money received for lots,		\$151 00
<i>Cr.</i>		
By Cash deposited in Bank,		\$50 00
Feb. 18, 1876, Cash paid C. Hudson,		3 00
May, " " W. Duren,		10 00
" 24, " " F. Collins,		3 50
July 24, " " A. F. Gould,		3 00
Aug. 8, " " T. H. Bowen,		20 00
Sept. " Cash paid T. H. Bowen, for mowing,		5 00
Oct. 30, " One-half day's labor of self on boundaries,		1 00
To services as Sup't of Cemetery, and other services,		20 22
" 10 per cent. on money for lots,		15 10
Cash on hand,		20 18
		\$151 00

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

SCHOOLS.

INSTRUCTION, FUEL AND CARE OF ROOMS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$9,000 00	
½ State School Fund,	172 61	
		\$9,172 61

REPAIRS AND INCIDENTALS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$750 00	
½ State School Fund,	57 54	
		\$807 54

Excess of expenditure,

\$9,980 15
81 96

Whole amount of expenditures as per
summary on page 21,

\$10,012 11
\$10,012 11

ADAMS SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

Silas Peabody, instruction,	\$1,050 00
" " care of room,	75 00
Gertrude Pierce, instruction,	112 50
Carrie Fiske, "	450 00
J. W. Peirce, coal,	40 00
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	67 75
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	14 00
A. A. Locke, wood,	7 00
Mrs. Cosgrove, cleaning,	5 30
Mrs. Kane, "	5 58
F. Chalenor, putting in coal,	75
	\$1,828 38

From Grant for Repairs.

H. B. Davis, repairs,	\$10 88	
W. L. Parker, "	4 00	
L. A. Saville, brush,	2 25	
John A. Stroples, labor,	2 25	
Alonzo Goddard, repairs,	17 70	
Oliver Brown, "	2 50	
School Committee, books,	6 48	
Gilbert Cutting, tuning piano,	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$48 04

BOWDITCH SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

Ada M. Frost, instruction,	\$487 50	
Emma M. Wright, "	56 25	
W. A. Kendall, care of room,	20 25	
William Viles, wood,	7 50	
S. D. Kendall, "	7 00	
J. W. Peirce, coal,	8 25	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	11 10	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	2 60	
W. A. Kendall, cutting wood,	2 50	
	<hr/>	\$552 95

From Grant for Repairs.

E. S. Locke, sundries,	\$6 58	
Locke & Goddard, sundries,	1 00	
L. A. Saville, broom,	50	
W. L. Parker, jobbing,	2 00	
H. B. Davis, repairs,	5 00	
W. T. Ham, books,	1 05	
School Committee, books,	2 79	
	<hr/>	\$18 87

FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

Carrie A. Underwood, instruction,	\$400 00	
J. H. Shedd, care of room,	10 00	
E. G. Shedd, " "	10 00	
Arthur B. Shedd, shovelling paths,	1 50	
A. L. Shedd, cutting wood,	1 50	
A. W. Locke, wood,	3 56	
Overseers of Poor, wood,	6 00	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	11 10	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	2 60	
Mrs. J. Gordon, cleaning,	8 00	
J. McCarty, cutting wood,	2 00	
	<hr/>	\$451 26

From Grant for Repairs.

W. L. Parker, jobbing,	\$17 15	
Locke & Goddard, repairs,	2 00	
E. S. Locke, "	5 75	
L. A. Saville, sundries,	4 28	
H. B. Davis, repairs,	8 20	
John Landers, "	2 00	
Arthur B. Shedd, "	1 00	
School Committee, books,	6 51	
W. T. Ham, "	8 38	
	<hr/>	\$50 17

HANCOCK SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

Rosa Akerman, instruction,	\$767 00	
Ellen B. Lane, "	500 00	
F. A. Hutchinson, "	424 99	
N. E. Harrington, "	400 00	
Eli Simonds, care of rooms,	84 58	
Mrs. Gorman, cleaning,	1 59	
	<hr/>	\$2,178 16

Amount carried forward,

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$2,178 16	
Mrs. Crowley, cleaning,	3 49	
" Desmond, "	1 59	
" Canfield, "	1 00	
" White, "	1 59	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	55 50	
J. W. Peirce, "	38 00	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	18 00	
		\$2,292 33

From Grant for Repairs.

Gilbert Cutting, tuning piano,	\$2 00	
F. E. Stuart, settees,	6 30	
J. S. Merriam, glazing,	3 80	
L. A. Saville, sundries,	98	
G. Swan, repairs,	8 00	
A. L. Ball, "	1 65	
W. H. Smith, glazing,	5 00	
T. K. Fiske, painting,	55 70	
D. A. Tuttle, repairs,	6 00	
H. B. Davis, "	10 13	
Geo. B. Dennett, "	2 75	
Geo. W. Nichols, repairing clock,	4 00	
E. S. Locke, sundries,	36 11	
J. J. Murray, pump,	13 00	
D. Webster King & Co., paint, &c.,	51 80	
Packard, Burrill & Co., feather duster,	1 75	
School Committee, books,	3 59	
W. T. Ham, "	6 78	
Brooks, Rushton & Co., expressage,	1 50	
Locke & Goddard, sundries,	3 55	
		\$224 39

HIGH SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

A. E. White, instruction,	\$900 00	
R. B. Clark, "	750 00	
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$1,650 00	

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$1,650 00	
Fannie A. Kimball, "	237 50	
Annie R. Rice, "	275 00	
Imogen W. Eddy, "	250 00	
E. P. Hidden, "	250 00	
Eli Simonds, care of rooms, and sundries,	39 00	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	55 50	
J. W. Peirce, "	8 25	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	13 00	
John M. Reed, wood,	7 00	
Mrs. Canfield, cleaning,	7 63	
" Desmond, "	3 00	
" White, "	3 00	
" Gorman, "	2 25	
		\$2,801 18

From Grant for Repairs.

Gilbert Cutting, tuning piano,	\$4 00	
Locke & Goddard, sundries,	45	
E. S. Locke, repairs and sundries,	21 59	
Church's Express, expressage,	5 25	
Thomas Hollis, chemicals,	85	
L. A. Saville, sundries,	5 17	
David Clapp & Son, printing,	13 50	
H. B. Davis, repairs,	12 05	
D. A. Tuttle, "	7 75	
G. Swan, "	8 60	
J. S. Merriam, painting, &c.,	17 80	
A. L. Ball, repairs,	1 50	
W. L. Parker, "	1 00	
Geo. W. Nichols, repairing clock,	2 00	
John Landers, glazing,	1 75	
H. C. Kendall, writing diplomas,	8 60	
W. R. Cutter, diploma ribbon,	1 75	
Boston Journal, advertising,	2 50	
School Committee, books,	22 62	
W. T. Ham, "	7 84	
E. B. Bridgman, liquid slating,	4 25	
J. S. Merrill & Son, shades, &c.,	1 43	
		\$146 75

HOWARD SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

Maria A. Butterfield, instruction,	\$400 00	
W. W. Ferguson, care of rooms,	21 51	
Wm. Grover, " "	5 00	
Wm. Viles, wood,	15 00	
S. D. Kendall, "	7 00	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	11 10	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	2 60	
		\$462 21

From Grant for Repairs.

John Clary, lumber,	\$98 81	
Geo. B. Dennett, labor,	83 95	
H. B. Davis, "	1 00	
W. S. Howard, repairs,	16 90	
E. S. Locke, sundries,	4 35	
L. A. Saville, nails,	6 15	
W. R. Cutter, use of horse,	1 50	
School Committee, books,	1 34	
W. T. Ham, "	3 30	
		\$167 30

WARREN SCHOOL.

From School Grant.

M. Alice Paul, instruction,	\$469 37	
Katie McNamara, care of room,	17 00	
Katie McNamara, cutting wood,	2 25	
J. W. Peirce, coal,	8 25	
Wm. Viles, wood,	15 00	
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	11 10	
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal,	2 60	
		\$525 57

From Grant for Repairs.

Locke & Goddard, repairs,	\$ 60	
J. S. Merriam, glazing,	8 00	
H. B. Davis, repairs,	15 00	
D. A. Tuttle, "	5 50	
W. L. Parker, jobbing,	1 50	
W. H. Smith, glazing, &c.,	2 50	
E. S. Locke, sundries,	4 50	
School Committee, books,	1 59	
W. T. Ham, "	1 59	
W. R. Cutter, use of horse,	1 00	
		\$36 78

COMMON TO ALL SCHOOLS.

From School Grant.

Horace Bird, musical instruction,	\$264 00
-----------------------------------	----------

From Grant for Repairs.

W. R. Cutter, travelling expenses and horse hire,	\$3 75	
Wm. Plumer, use of horse,	3 00	
Eli Simonds, truant officer,	4 00	
Hammon Reed, stationery,	3 75	
Carter, Rice & Co., "	2 00	
Church's Express, expressage,	40	
D. A. Tuttle, remodeling desks,	45 20	
W. T. Ham, books,	15 89	
Knight, Adams & Co., supplies,	31 57	
M. R. Warren, record book,	2 00	
Brooks, Rushton & Co., expressage,	3 50	
A. G. Whitcomb, ink wells,	14 62	
J. L. Hammett, sundries,	6 30	
Wakefield Rattan Co. mats, &c.,	6 00	
		\$141 98

SUMMARY.

NAME OF SCHOOLS.	FROM SCHOOL GRANT. Instruction, Fuel and care of rooms.	FROM REPAIR GRANT. Repairs and Inci- dentals.	TOTALS.
Adams,	\$1,828 88	\$48 04	\$1,876 42
Bowditch,	552 95	18 87	571 82
Franklin,	451 26	50 17	501 43
Hancock,	2,292 83	224 89	2,516 72
High,	2,801 18	146 75	2,947 88
Howard,	462 21	167 80	629 51
Warren,	525 57	86 78	562 85
Common to all,	264 00	141 98	405 98
Total,	\$9,177 88	\$884 28	\$10,012 11

STATE AID.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$450 00	
Received from State,	422 00	
		\$872 00
Amount expended,	\$420 00	
Balance,	452 00	
		\$872 00

EXPENDITURES.

Thomas Burke, 18 months,	\$78 00
Mary S. Manning, 12 months,	48 00
Mary Manly, 2 months,	16 00
A. H. Taylor, 4 months,	18 00
Emily Earle, 12 months,	48 00
Jas. A. Mitchell, 12 months,	54 00
Lydia Kennaston, 12 months,	48 00
G. A. Page, 18 months,	78 00
Annie C. Whitney, 4 months,	32 00
	\$420 00

STATE TAX.

Assessed for 1876,	\$2,984 00	
Paid State Treasurer,		\$2,984 00

COUNTY TAX.

Assessed for 1876,	\$1,028 90	
Paid County Treasurer,		\$1,028 90

AUDITORS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$45 00
-------------------------------------	---------

EXPENDITURES.

Frank E. Wetherell, services 1875,	\$24 00
Gershom Swan, services 1875,	21 00
	\$45 00

ADDITION TO VILLAGE HALL.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$52 30
-------------------------------------	---------

EXPENDITURES.

D. A. Tuttle, balance of bill,	\$52 30
--------------------------------	---------

RINGING CHURCH BELLS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$70 00
-------------------------------------	---------

EXPENDITURES.

J. F. Ham, services to April 1, 1876,	\$35 00
J. Chisholm, services to May 1, 1876,	35 00
	\$70 00

COLLECTOR AND TREASURER.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$400 00

EXPENDITURES.

I. N. Damon, balance due for 1875, \$200 00
 " on account services 1876, 200 00
\$400 00

DECORATION DAY.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$100 00
 Amount expended, \$91 25
 Balance unexpended, 8 75
\$100 00

EXPENDITURES.

Treas. Post 119, G. A. R., \$91 25

LIQUOR LICENSES.

Received from Wm. F. Wood, \$150 00
 " Chas. Adair, 150 00
\$300 00
 Paid State Treasurer, \$75 00

INSURANCE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$400 00
 Amount expended, \$374 50
 Balance unexpended, 25 50
\$400 00

EXPENDITURES.

Home Insurance Co. ins., \$10,000 \$150 00
 Franklin Insurance Co. " 5,000 75 00
 Hanover Insurance Co. " 5,000 117 50
 Traders' and Mech. Ins. Co. " 3,200 82 00
\$374 50

INTEREST.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$4,500 00
 Interest on taxes, 1875 and 1876, overdue, 307 29
\$4,807 29
 Amount expended, \$4,191 55
 Balance unexpended, 615 74
\$4,807 29

EXPENDITURES.

Heirs of Geo. Holden, interest, \$1,243 07
 First National Bank, of Boston, " 60 00
 Treas. Cary Library, " 370 00
 Lex. Ministerial Fund, " 210 00
 Warren Sherburne, " 39 73
 Richardson, Hill & Co., " 585 00
 Middlesex Institute for Savings, " 332 50
 State Treasurer, " 1,350 00
 Webster Smith, " 1 25
\$4,191 55

SCHOOL COMMITTEE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$300 00
 Amount expended, \$250 00
 Balance unexpended, 50 00
\$300 00

EXPENDITURES.

W. R. Cutter, services,	\$100 00
E. S. Elder, "	70 00
William Plumer, "	50 00
Hammon Reed, "	80 00
	<hr/>
	\$250 00

BILLS PAYABLE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed, 1876, for annual payment of Centennial loan,	\$2,000 00	
Borrowed, Warren Sherburne, Apr. 1, 1876,	2,000 00	
" 1st Nat'l B'k, Boston, Apr. 6, '76,	2,000 00	
" " " " Apr. 7, '76,	2,000 00	
" " " " June 1, '76,	1,000 00	
" " " " " 2, '76,	1,000 00	
" J. Pickering & Mobely " 8, '76,	5,000 00	
" Warren Sherburne, Nov. 24, '76,	500 00	
" " " " Jan. 31, '76,	500 00	
Excess of expenditure,	2,500 00	
	<hr/>	\$18,500 00

EXPENDITURES.

Richardson, Hill & Co., note, Apr. 1, 1875, paid April 1, 1876, "Centennial,"	\$2,000 00
Geo. Holden, temporary loan of May 7, 1875, paid June 8, 1876,	5,000 00
First National Bank of Boston, temporary loan of Apr. 6, 1876, paid July 7, 1876,	2,000 00
First National Bank of Boston, temporary loan of Apr. 7, 1876, one-half paid July 7, 1876,	1,000 00
First National Bank of Boston, temporary loan of June 2, 1876, paid July 25, 1876,	1,000 00
Amount carried forward,	<hr/>
	\$11,000 00

Amount brought forward,	\$11,000 00	
First National Bank of Boston, temporary loan of June 1, 1876, and balance of loan of April 7, 1876, paid July 25, 1876,	2,000 00	
Warren Sherburne, temporary loan of April 1, 1876, paid July 7, 1876,	2,000 00	
Middlesex Institute for Savings, note Aug. 29, 1866, paid Sept. 22, 1876,	8,000 00	
Warren Sherburne, temporary loan, Nov. 24, 1876, paid Dec. 4, 1876,	500 00	
	<hr/>	\$18,500 00

ASSESSORS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,		\$400 00
Amount expended,	\$385 00	
Balance unexpended,	15 00	
	<hr/>	\$400 00

EXPENDITURES.

H. B. Davis, services,	\$115 00
Walter Wellington, "	115 00
Walter Wellington, use of horse,	10 00
J. F. Simonds, services,	120 00
J. F. Simonds, copying valuation,	25 00
	<hr/>
	\$385 00

GAMMELL LEGACY.

RECEIPTS.

Interest on \$500 to July 28, 1876,		\$76 25
Amount expended,	\$49 62	
Balance unexpended,	26 68	
	<hr/>	\$76 25

27

EXPENDITURES.

Mrs. A. W. Bryant and Mrs. P. P. Peirce
(committee appointed by the Selectmen),
sundries, \$49 62

TOWN CLERK.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$100 00

EXPENDITURES.

L. A. Saville, services, \$100 00

PLEASANT ST. LAND PURCHASE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated, 1876, \$300 00

EXPENDITURES.

Cornelius Wellington, land, \$300 00
Above appropriation not included in assessment of taxes.

SEXTON.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$75 00
Amount expended, \$42 50
Balance unexpended, 32 50
\$75 00

EXPENDITURES.

O. W. Kendall, services from Jan. 1, 1876,
to Jan. 1, 1877,
48 deaths returned, \$11 50
31 funerals attended, 31 00
\$42 50

28

CARY LIBRARY.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$350 00
Dog Tax for 1875, 369 79
\$719 79
Amount expended, \$598 97
Balance unexpended, 125 82
\$719 79

EXPENDITURES.

Hammon Reed, Treas., dog tax, 1875, \$369 79
Edith M. Plummer, Librarian, 80 68
Marion S. Keyes, " 32 00
Grace S. Wellington, " 111 50
\$598 97

CONSTABLES AND POLICE.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876, \$600 00
Amount expended, \$495 60
Balance unexpended, 104 40
\$600 00

EXPENDITURES.

E. S. Locke, services, \$50 00
G. M. Litchfield, " 129 00
H. A. Wellington, " 66 60
W. Walcott, " 145 50
G. Kauffmann, " 37 50
Eli Simonds, notifying three town meetings
and attending the same, 86 00
Eli Simonds, distributing Historical Abstract, 10 00
" notifying dog-owners, 10 00
" summoning officers to draw jurors, 2 00
" services as police, 9 00
\$495 60

STREET LAMPS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$1,400 00	
Excess of expenditure,	70 78	
	<hr/>	\$1,470 78

EXPENDITURES.

Lexington Gas Co., gas,	\$697 91	
John Harrington, care of lamps,	552 58	
G. Kauffmann, "	103 12	
David Hall, "	14 50	
W. B. Hadley, "	21 60	
T. Hibbard Bowen, "	2 90	
N. W. Peirce, "	5 00	
R. W. Holbrook, "	4 10	
Aug. Obilds, "	3 60	
N. W. Jenney, "	8 50	
N. Garmon, "	4 10	
E. S. Spaulding, "	8 50	
Willie B. Bass, "	3 35	
W. L. Barnes, "	3 25	
Oliver Brown, repairs and care,	15 50	
J. Wiley, repairs,	6 75	
L. A. Saville, sundries,	13 22	
G. Kauffmann, repairs,	2 55	
E. S. Locke, sundries,	9 75	
	<hr/>	\$1,470 78

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$800 00	
Excess of expenditure,	104 08	
	<hr/>	\$904 08

EXPENDITURES.

D. A. Tuttle, repairs, "Adams,"	\$7 25
Oliver Brown, painting, "	8 50
" care, "	50 00
Alonzo Goddard, sundries, 1874, "	1 50
John A. Russell, repairs, "	2 50
Hunneman & Co., sundries, "	200 75
H. P. Webber, smithing, "	2 50
J. Chisholm, smithing, "	11 85
J. L. Holbrook, painting, "	70 00
Hadley & Wright, sundries, "	7 00
C. Mandelberg, stock and labor, "	5 50
H. R. Wentworth, repairs, "	1 50
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal, "	22 20
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal, "Adams,"	5 60
John Hanscom, use of horse at Blanchard fire,	3 00
E. E. Smith, services at Goddard fire,	2 00
G. Kauffmann, " " "	2 00
H. A. Wellington, 37 men at Blanchard fire,	55 50
" use of two horses at Blanchard fire,	6 00
E. S. Spaulding, storage "H. & L.,"	12 00
Hadley's Express, moving Hook and Ladder truck to Outler fire,	5 00
Moving same to Blanchard fire,	5 00
Hadley's Express, expressage,	50
Scrammage Bros., hardware, "Hancock,"	1 50
Wm. Hall, padlock and keys, "	4 00
H. A. Turner, care and sundries, "	51 31
Locke and Goddard, sundries, "	5 78
Alonzo Goddard, sundries, 1873, "	2 45
E. S. Locke, sundries, "	45 77
J. W. Peirce, coal, "	9 25
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal, "	11 10
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal, "	2 80
Est. of F. M. Harrington, use of horse, "	2 00
Amount carried forward,	\$618 61

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$618 61	
L. A. Saville, sundries, "Hancock,"	28 78	
J. F. Adair, care, "	28 55	
G. W. Stevens, keys and fitting, "	4 80	
Lyman Lawrence, sundries, "	8 42	
A. L. Ball, labor and stock, "	48 21	
O. A. Butters & Co., sundries, "	1 54	
A. W. Mitchell, badges, "	18 07	
Scrammage Bros., repairs, "Fire Ex.,"	11 27	
Bost. Dyewood & Chem. Co., chemicals, "	8 94	
A. G. Babcock, chemicals, "	5 19	
A. W. Mitchell, badges, "	8 10	
W. A. Holmes & Co., chemicals, "	15 68	
Brooks, Rushton & Co., expressage, "	1 30	
Braman, Dow & Co., waste, &c.,	1 47	
Hunneman & Co., rope, &c.,	42 48	
Aiken & Woodward, charcoal,	2 50	
L. Lawrence, sundries,	11 40	
M. F. Whiton & Co., cordage,	20 87	
Brooks, Rushton & Co., expressage,	90	
A. W. Phillips, horse and wagon,	7 00	
Otis Wentworth, services as engineer,	5 00	
H. A. Turner, " " "	5 00	
Benj. Hadley, " " "	15 00	
		\$904 08

CONTINGENT.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$3,500 00
Use and rent of Town Hall and rooms,	276 00
Use of Village Hall,	98 50
A. S. McDonald, billiard license,	10 00
Town of Burlington, cash,	5 25
School Committee, for tuition,	35 00
Boston, Lowell & Nashua R. R. Co., cash,	1 00
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$3,920 75

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$3,920 75	
Drainage betterments,	47 66	
Chas. Hudson, witness fees in case of Tidd vs. Lexington, returned,	60 00	
Hay Scales,	48 08	
Sale of Town Histories, L. A. Saville,	39 20	
" Centennial " "	11 40	
Supplementary Tax List,	348 14	
Overlayings, as per Assessors' report,	666 60	
Taxes, 1875,	6,058 60	
Corporation Tax,	\$641 71	
Bank Tax,	788 73	
	\$1,880 44	
Amount deducted from appropriations for the above two items,	1,000 00	
	880 44	\$11,570 87
Amount expended,	\$3,084 95	
Balance unexpended,	8,485 92	\$11,570 87

EXPENDITURES.

Webster Smith, on account, services as selectman, 1876,	\$300 00
A. W. Bryant, on account, services as selectman, 1876,	275 00
Otis Wentworth, on account, services as selectman, 1876,	275 00
B. C. Whitcher, services, selectman, Feb., '76,	25 00
F. Alderman, " " "	25 00
I. N. Damon, " " "	25 00
" labor on town bounds,	5 00
" sundries,	37 65
" recording and expenses,	16 05
L. A. Saville, postage, expressage,	4 27
" sundries,	16 05
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$1,004 02

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$1,004 02
L. A. Saville, rigging flag-staff and care of flag,	6 05
Chas. Hudson, postage, &c.,	4 50
" witness fees in case of Tidd	
vs. Lexington,	60 00
Chas. Hudson, expenses connected with	
drainage, travelling expenses, arguing	
case, and time with counsel and surveyor,	48 00
Alonzo Goddard, services as sealer,	15 00
O. W. Kendall, janitor, Jan., Feb. and Mar.,	81 75
Eli Simonds, distributing Town Reports,	18 00
" summons expenses,	21 00
" expense on witnesses in case	
of Wood vs. Lexington,	2 60
Eli Simonds, janitor Town Hall to Feb. 1,	
1877,	158 33
Eli Simonds, sundries,	7 45
J. W. Peirce, coal,	22 63
J. A. Wellington & Co., coal,	164 86
Surveyors of Highways, teaming coal to	
Village Hall,	2 80
L. S. Pierce, janitor, Village Hall,	11 00
G. Kauffman, " " "	52 50
" sundries,	11 50
E. S. Locke, stove repairs, &c.,	31 04
Morse & Whyte, wire cloth,	23 00
Lexington Gas Co., gas,	160 65
Hammon Reed, printing School Report, '76,	50 00
" " printing,	7 50
Frank Wood, printing 600 Town Reports, 1876,	156 00
T. R. Marvin & Son, printing,	80 00
Chas. S. Parker, " "	19 25
Irving S. Locke, " "	2 50
J. R. Carter, surveying and drainage plans,	42 50
Frank A. Titus, gas fixtures,	12 00
Walker, Pratt & Co., ventilator,	6 75
Chas. Brown, exp. salute, April 19th,	29 15
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$2,812 83

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$2,812 83
Wm. Read & Son, cartridges, Apr. 19th,	29 50
Willard Walcott, teaming cannon,	6 00
Wm. Read & Son, equipments to make up	
Minute Men deficiency,	35 19
D. Dow, packing muskets, and journey to	
Framingham,	3 00
H. B. Davis, labor on sign post and railings,	
with stock,	37 71
Geo. B. Dennett, boxing Centennial Elm, &c.,	23 16
" labor,	1 65
County Com., case of Wood vs. Lexington,	60 00
Joshua Hobart, <i>et al.</i> , witness fees in case	
Wood vs. Lexington,	4 20
G. Swan, labor and stock, Town Hall,	7 65
" " " new Engine House,	1 25
O. R. Richardson, surveying,	41 00
Est. F. M. Harrington, carriage hire,	5 00
John P. Reed, services as Committeeman	
on repairs on Waltham Street,	5 00
T. K. Fiske, repairs on Town House,	1 40
Samuel Sage, surveying,	5 00
Clerk Middlesex Co. Court, copying,	2 00
West, Parkman & Son, hardware,	2 80
O. K. Darling, stationery,	9 62
Little, Brown & Co., book,	3 00
M. R. Warren, license blanks,	1 15
Michael O'Brien, labor on Common,	12 00
W. G. Taylor, repairs on pump,	4 00
Aiken & Woodward, charcoal,	11 25
E. Howard & Co., one set weights and meas-	
ures,	350 00
L. Lovejoy & Co., lumber,	37 50
Shedd & Sawyer, engineering,	35 00
N. Garmon, labor at Village Hall,	10 00
J. Ohisholm, repairs on pump,	1 60
Alonzo Goddard, sundries for Village Hall,	15 50
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$8,078 96

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$3,073 96
A. L. Ball, glazing,	2 25
Oliver Brown, repairs on pump,	1 75
R. & W. Sherburne, glass,	6 24
Brooks, Rushton & Co., expressage,	75
	<hr/>
	\$3,084 96

NEW ENGINE HOUSE (Centre Village).

Balance unexpended from 1875 appropriation,	\$1,085 00
Amount expended, 1876,	\$1,035 00

EXPENDITURES.

A. L. Ball, labor,	\$1 25
D. A. Tuttle, balance of his bill,	1,033 75
	<hr/>
	\$1,085 00

SUPPORT OF POOR.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$2,000 00
Cash from various sources as follows:—	
O. Lappen,	\$6 45
B. C. Whitchoer,	1 25
Jackson Bros.,	7 00
Wm. Ham, eggs,	1 30
F. Alderman, house offal, &c.,	21 99
I. N. Damon, teaming hay,	2 00
Wm. Ham,	1 20
R. F. Dodge,	26 00
1 bbl. potatoes,	1 75
H. S. Howland, produce sold,	9 45
Overseers of Poor, pigs sold,	120 00
Town of Middleton, Wm. Blodgett,	22 00
Webster Smith, cow sold,	75 00
Joseph M. Eaton, soap-grease,	88
	<hr/>
<i>Amounts carried forward,</i>	\$296 27 \$2,000 00

<i>Amounts brought forward,</i>	\$296 27	\$2,000 00
Jackson Bros., apples and chickens,	8 70	
P. Keating, Jr., pig,	3 50	
Jas. Emery, apples,	3 00	
Chas. Hudson, potatoes,	12 00	
C. L. Parker, fowls,	39 60	
J. Russell, pigs,	192 00	
Estabrooks & Blodgett, cows sold,	17 50	
Jackson Bros., chickens, &c.,	26 61	
J. H. Tarball, eggs,	12 18	
Surveyors of Highways, board of		
man and horses,	468 75	
Outside Poor, coal,	36 00	
Sidney Lawrence, 3 pigs,	9 00	
Richard Dunn, 2 pigs,	7 00	
A. W. Bryant, eggs and pigs,	143 82	
M. Fitzgerald, 2 pigs,	7 00	
H. S. Howland, produce sold,	120 70	
Removing snow,	16 50	
School Grant, wood,	6 00	
Patrick Powers, use of boar,	2 00	
Aug. Childs, 2 pigs,	6 00	
	<hr/>	

Cash from town of Methuen for support of	\$1,434 08
Jos. A. Fiske,	4 12

	\$3,488 20
Excess of expenditures,	550 27

\$3,988 47

Amount expended in connection with house	
and farm,	\$3,121 02
Amount expended for outside poor,	867 45

\$3,988 47

EXPENDITURES.

R. F. Dodge, services of self and wife,	\$150 00
" sundries,	2 65
H. S. Howland, services,	250 00

<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$402 65
--------------------------------	----------

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	<i>\$402 65</i>
H. S. Howland, sundries,	33 22
A. Childs, groceries and grain,	54 41
L. A. Saville, " " "	224 19
R. W. Holbrook, " " "	47 86
C. A. Butters & Co., " " "	54 51
W. A. Holmes & Co., " " "	320 11
J. H. Tarbell, " " "	29 12
I. W. Monroe & Co., " " "	23 00
Samuel A. Fowle, grain,	48 75
C. H. Clark, grinding,	12 72
E. Blaisdell, " "	3 30
Jackson Bros., provisions,	128 25
C. H. Lowe, " "	6 12
John P. Squires, " "	45 50
W. S. Hovey & Co., produce,	14 48
Rockwell Bros., flour,	45 50
Davis, Chapin & Co., onions,	2 10
Bryant & Scates, butter,	6 86
P. O. Page, " "	90 91
F. Snow & Son, codfish,	4 50
H. B. Mitchell, fish,	18 49
F. Frates, " "	21 17
Quick Bros., tobacco,	2 50
A. W. Bryant, potatoes,	15 00
" " oats,	82 50
" " 2 sows,	20 00
" " sundries,	4 10
J. M. Eaton, soap,	9 75
Wm. Wyman, coal,	68 83
J. W. Peirce, " "	9 25
J. A. Wellington & Co., "	187 22
Marcus Simonds, wood,	123 78
Est. J. H. Monroe, clothing,	12 00
Fessenden & Osgood, " "	4 80
Geo. W. Simmons & Son, " "	74 07
F. R. Willis, dry goods,	60 61
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<i>\$2,261 68</i>

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	<i>\$2,261 68</i>
Shepard, Norwell & Co., dry goods,	10 80
Taylor & Co., " "	8 95
W. T. Ham, " "	9 80
Jordan, Marsh & Co., " "	2 78
A. F. Spaulding, boots, shoes, &c.,	80 52
W. W. Griffin, boots,	5 00
F. McGuire, hay,	16 40
John Hanscom, " "	28 58
Thos. Lahea, straw,	19 75
F. Alderman, 4 pigs,	20 00
C. F. Alderman, balance on pullets,	4 30
C. L. Parker, pullets,	48 10
W. Harding, cow,	25 00
" " cabbages,	8 00
City of Cambridge, house offal,	175 44
City of Boston, " "	18 00
W. J. Ourrier, medical services,	87 00
" " 1874, " "	5 00
" " 1875, " "	19 00
J. Chisholm, harness work,	7 00
L. Lawrence, " "	4 00
William Brigham, wheelwrighting,	25 11
C. K. Tucker, " "	18 20
Wm. Ham, smithing,	20 85
F. H. Kneeland, " "	36 50
Josiah Smith, " "	1 86
Boston, Lowell & Nashua R. R., freight,	2 99
Church's Express, expressage,	1 15
Brooks, Rushton & Co.'s Exp., expressage,	8 35
Estabrooks & Blodgett, pasturage and com- mission,	9 00
Highway Surveyors, use of horse,	108 00
Margaret Fitzpatrick, nursing,	7 00
Jamea Emery, labor,	15 00
A. G. Babcock, sundries,	4 68
School Committee, books for poor children,	5 99
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	<i>\$3,019 73</i>

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$3,019 78	
G. Swan, repairing boiler,	50	
J. S. Garland, repairing clock,	75	
O. Lappen, brooms,	3 50	
Locke & Goddard, sundries,	16 41	
E. W. Carleton, whitewash brush,	2 00	
C. Caldwell, sundries,	4 05	
A. H. Cashman, barrels,	85	
Geo. B. Dennett, repairs,	1 00	
Mary Houghton, tailoring,	9 25	
Mrs. James Wiley, sewing,	2 50	
Patrick Powers, use of horse,	2 25	
Town of Lexington, dog license,	2 00	
John L. Holbrook, painting,	2 00	
E. S. Locke, sundries,	4 48	
Patrick Keating, labor,	49 75	
		\$3,121 02

OUTSIDE POOR.

Aid furnished Mrs. Egan,	\$96 32	
" " L. Kennaston,	41 68	
" " Mary A. Purcell,	189 48	
" " Catharine Conway,	4 10	
" " Sarah Reed,	32 00	
" " Mrs. Canfield,	8 18	
" " Mrs. Doyle,	3 50	
" " Lydia Estabrooks,	6 80	
" " Bella M. Clark,	9 50	
" " Mrs. P. Crowley,	16 25	
" " Lydia Gleason,	104 00	
" " Adam Naylor,	8 20	
" " Nathan Reed,	4 00	
" " Wm. Hawkins,	66 45	
" " Joel Reed,	28 60	
" " E. Harrigan,	17 38	
<i>Amount carried forward,</i>	\$630 89	

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$630 89	
Aid furnished Jeremiah Logan,	5 00	
" " John Abbott,	21 00	
" " Jos. A. Fiske,	9 48	
O. W. Kendall, undertaking,	44 50	
W. A. Holmes & Co., groceries,	10 00	
I. N. Damon, expense on pauper,	7 10	
Otis Wentworth, " "	95	
A. W. Phillips, " "	5 00	
F. Alderman, " tramps,	3 27	
F. Chalenor, " "	2 40	
T. D. Pierce, " "	1 00	
L. A. Saville, " "	23 51	
W. M. Gleason, " "	2 00	
O. W. Kendall, putting up " "	8 25	
Eli Simonds, " 598 tramps,	98 15	
		\$867 45

HIGHWAYS.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$4,500 00	
" in addition, Nov. 7, 1876,		
but not assessed,	500 00	
Cash from various sources as follows :—		
B. C. Whitcher, street scrapings,	1 00	
Overseers of Poor, use of horses,	108 00	
Fire Department, teaming coal,	8 40	
Outside Poor, " "	2 80	
Contingent Grant, " " Village Hall,	2 80	
School Grant, teaming coal,	50 40	
Removing snow,	68 00	
Wm. Ham, old steel,	5 38	
O. Adair, street scrapings,	6 00	
	\$247 73	
Amount expended,	\$4,955 62	\$5,247 73
Balance,	292 11	
		\$5,247 73

EXPENDITURES.

J. Spaulding, labor,	\$ 14 87
N. Shea, "	299 62
W. W. Griffin, "	32 00
J. F. Simonds, "	45 00
Thos. Anderson, "	5 50
D. Collins, "	25 87
S. Puffer, "	3 65
Jas. Emery, "	185 00
P. Powers, "	272 24
M. Moulton, "	60 37
F. Gaffney, "	277 49
P. Keating, Jr., "	259 49
F. Chalenor, "	298 48
Wm. Murphy, "	264 49
H. Peirce, "	276 53
Jos. Dane, "	8 62
G. A. Page, "	22 00
P. Doyle, "	11 25
Jas. Gorman, "	38 74
N. Garmon, labor on culverts,	565 62
M. H. Roberts, " " and gravel,	12 00
Sidney Butters, labor and stock,	28 60
W. Walcott, 1 horse,	175 00
J. D. Willis, "	200 00
O. M. Parker, "	200 00
H. W. Vinal, grain,	13 80
S. A. Fowle, "	52 50
A. W. Bryant, "	82 50
E. Blaisdell, grinding,	9 60
O. H. Clark, grain and "	44 53
O. A. Butters & Co., grain and sundries,	3 79
L. A. Saville, " "	98 75
Ang. Childs, " "	81 96
R. W. Holbrook, " "	86 63
O. E. Otis, stone,	12 00
John A. Easton, lumber,	41 59

Amount carried forward, \$4,054 58

Amount brought forward,

\$4,054 58

Burrage Bros., lumber,	36 00
E. H. Goodwin & Co., shovels,	16 68
Wm. Brigham, wheelwrighting,	59 60
H. P. Webber, smithing,	17 61
J. Smith, "	19 96
J. A. Russell, "	8 87
Wm. Ham, "	71 78
F. H. Kneeland, "	5 10
J. Chisholm, harness work,	23 45
L. Lawrence, "	48 20
Parker & Gannett, hames and plow points,	4 75
E. S. Locke, can,	1 00
Thos. Shadwell, gravel,	24 24
Charles Tidd, "	7 50
M. Brennan, "	3 75
Wm. Locke, 2d, repairs on drain,	75
Town of Burlington, use of scraper,	3 00
Overseers of Poor, labor, and use of horses,	468 75
Day, Collins & Co., drain pipe,	60 00
Eli Simonds, putting up lanterns,	1 00
O. M. Parker, labor, and use of horse,	15 00
Hadley's Express, expressage,	4 55

\$4955 62

REMOVING SNOW.

RECEIPTS.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,		\$500 00
Amount expended,	\$322 69	
Balance unexpended,	177 81	

\$500 00

EXPENDITURES.

W. C. Pierce, labor,	\$5 00
John Osborn, "	20 50

Amount carried forward, \$25 50

<i>Amount brought forward,</i>	\$25 50
H. Peirce, labor,	6 00
F. Chalenor, "	17 25
M. H. Roberts, "	17 40
G. W. Jameson, "	6 60
Wm. M. Keefe, "	1 50
Arthur B. Shedd, "	1 00
Sidney Lawrence, "	6 00
R. F. Gove, "	4 50
W. W. Hartwell, "	5 00
A. N. Tufts, "	10 75
N. Shea, "	14 92
P. Keating, Jr., "	11 40
Jas. Emery, "	6 75
Wm. Murphy, "	16 95
O. M. Parker, "	10 00
Webster Smith, "	10 00
M. Carroll, 2d, "	4 50
S. H. Jones, "	13 25
Morgan O'Brien, "	1 95
Overseers of the Poor, "	16 50
P. Powers, "	6 30
Highway Surveyors, "	63 00
E. Stone, "	9 80
F. Gaffney, "	1 50
Timothy Kincen, "	34 87
	<u>\$322 69</u>

ABATEMENT OF TAXES.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$500 00
No abatement for 1876 returned by Treas. and Collector.	

DISCOUNT ON TAXES.

Appropriated and assessed for 1876,	\$800 00
Excess of appropriation,	136 71
	<u>\$936 71</u>
Allowed for prompt payment of taxes,	\$936 71

AUDITORS' BALANCE-SHEET.

DR.	
Cash on hand February 1, 1876,	\$657 02
School Grant, Appropriation and School Fund,	9,172 61
" Repairs, " " " "	807 54
State Aid, Appropriation and amount from State,	872 00
State Tax,	2,934 00
County Tax,	1,023 90
Auditors, Appropriation,	45 00
Addition to Village Hall, Appropriation,	52 80
Ringin Church Bells, "	70 00
Collector and Treasurer, "	400 00
Decoration Day, "	100 00
Liquor Licenses, Receipts,	300 00
Insurance, Appropriation,	400 00
Interest, Appropriation and interest on overdue taxes,	4,807 20
School Committee, Appropriation,	300 00
Bills Payable, Appropriation and borrowed money,	16,000 00
Assessors, Appropriation,	400 00
Town Clerk, "	100 00
Sexton, "	75 00
Gary Library, " and dog tax,	719 79
Constable and Police, Appropriation,	600 00
Street Lamps, "	1,400 00
Fire Department, "	800 00
Contingent, " and sundry receipts,	11,570 87
Support of Poor, " " " "	2,438 20
Highways, Assessed " " " "	4,727 73
Removing Snow, "	500 00
Abatement of Taxes, "	500 00
Discount on Taxes, "	800 00
Amount advanced by Treasurer,	73 73
	<u>\$63,666 98</u>

AUDITORS' BALANCE-SHEET.

	CR.	Expenditures,	
School Grant,			\$9,177 83
School Repairs,			834 28
State Aid,			420 00
State Tax,			2,934 00
County Tax,			1,023 90
Auditors,			45 00
Addition to Village Hall,			52 30
Ringin Church Bells,			70 00
Collector and Treasurer,			400 00
Decoration Day,			91 25
Liquor Licenses,			75 00
Insurance,			374 50
Interest,			4,191 55
School Committee,			250 00
Bills Payable,			18,500 00
Assessors,			355 00
Gammell Legacy,			49 62
Town Clerk,			100 00
Pleasant Street Land Purchase,			300 00
Sexton,			42 50
Cary Library,			593 97
Constable and Police,			495 60
Street Lamps,			1,470 73
Fire Department,			904 08
Contingent,			2,084 95
New Engine House (Centre Village),			1,035 00
Support of Poor (Farm and Outside Poor),			3,988 47
Highways,			4,955 68
Removing Snow,			322 69
Discount on Taxes,			936 71
Amount of uncollected Taxes,			6,562 43
			<u>\$63,666 26</u>

REMARKS.

Each and every voucher for the items in the foregoing report has been presented to us by the Treasurer for examination. They were found to be correctly cast. We have also examined the books and accounts of that officer, and we certify to their correctness.

We are again obliged to differ considerably in our classification from that shown in the Treasurer's recapitulation. He, however, charged the bills as they were marked by the approving board. We found such classification as follows: One auditor's bill was paid from the Auditor grant, while the other was charged to Contingent; a bill for gas, distinctly marked "Street Lamps," was paid from and charged to Contingent; bills for putting up tramps—"Outside Poor" expenses—were charged to Contingent; the balance of the bill on the Addition to the Village Hall, for which a special appropriation was made, was charged to Contingent; bills amounting to nearly \$80.00, made out to the Fire Department, and representing work done for, or materials furnished to, the department, and approved by the Engineers, were also found in the Contingent; drain-pipe used upon the highways was another instance of the same kind. These and other items we have placed where it seemed to us they belonged. In no other way can the town know exactly what a department costs, and we presume that was the object in view when the town voted to have a board of auditors separate from the selectmen, and instructed them to make a detailed annual report.

We have been asked frequently why we differ in this matter of classification from the Treasurer's account, and we offer the above examples in explanation.

Respectfully submitted,

FRANK E. WETHERELL, }
GERSHOM SWAN, } *Auditors.*

LEXINGTON, Feb. 9th, 1877.

AN EXPLANATION.

In compiling the Town Reports last year, a work wholly done at that time by the Auditors, an item was omitted from the page devoted to a statement of the town debt, (Vide, page 16, Reports of the Town Officers of the Town of Lexington, for the year ending January 31, 1876,) which has led to considerable misunderstanding, and therefore demands explanation. Public rumor has it that the Town Treasurer left out of the list of notes, one payable to Geo. Holden for \$5000, dated May 7th, 1875; and rumor has even charged that the official referred to did this intentionally. This piece of gossip, however, has one serious defect. *It is not true.* In common with other officers, the Treasurer handed to the Auditors, last year, his report, included in which was the copy of the page referred to. Upon that copy, under the head of "Temporary Loans," was a line descriptive of *this very note*. Somewhere between the compositor and myself, this line was dropped. I cannot locate the blame by any proof, therefore *I assume it entirely*. My colleague on the Board of Auditors knew nothing of it, as he did not see the proof, it being brought to me at my place of business in Boston for convenience and saving of time. The Treasurer is blameless, for he included it in his statement.

One word more, for the benefit of those who have heard this story of the omission, and those who have industriously circulated it. The last year's volume of Town Reports *does* contain a record of this note. Upon page 45 of that book, under the head of "Bills Payable," on the debit side of the account are the words: Borrowed of Geo. Holden, May 7th, 1875, \$5000 00. This item was obtained by the Auditors from the Town note-book, shown to them by the Treasurer during their examination of the books and accounts. The Treasurer's balance-sheet and that of the Auditors would not have balanced had it been omitted.

I make this explanation in justice to the Treasurer, and upon my own responsibility.

Respectfully,

FRANK E. WETHERELL,

One of the Auditors for 1875-6.

REPORT

OF THE

SCHOOL COMMITTEE

OF THE

TOWN OF LEXINGTON,

FOR THE YEAR 1876-77.

**LAWRENCE:
PRINTED BY HAMMON REED,
1877.**

REPORT.

The School Committee of Lexington submit the following report :

At the annual meeting on March 6, 1876, the town voted to appropriate the sum of \$9,000 for instruction, fuel and care of rooms, and the sum of \$750 for incidentals and repairs of school buildings the ensuing year.

Town appropriation,	\$9,750 00
From the State School Fund, 1876,	280 15
" " " " " 1875,	138 31
For tuition, 1875,	35 00
" " 1876,	33 75
	<hr/>
	\$10,187 21

The Committee, mindful of the stringency of the times, have endeavored to manage their financial responsibilities in an economical manner, and within the bounds of the altogether too limited appropriation allowed for the current year.

EXPENDITURES.

Bills have been approved by them for 1876-77, as follows :

Instruction,	-	-	-	\$8,882 11
Fuel,	-	-	-	457 11
Care of rooms,	-	-	-	324 91
Repairs and incidentals,	-	-	-	834 43
				<hr/>
				\$9,998 56

In detail as follows :

ADAMS SCHOOL.

Instruction,	-	-	-	\$1,612 50
Fuel,	-	-	-	129 50
Care of rooms,	-	-	-	86 38
Repairs, &c.,	-	-	-	48 04
				<hr/>
				\$1,876 42

BOWDITCH SCHOOL.

Instruction,	-	-	-	\$493 75
Fuel,	-	-	-	38 95
Care of rooms,	-	-	-	20 25
Repairs, &c.,	-	-	-	18 87
				<hr/>
				\$571 82

FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

Instruction,	-	-	-	\$400 00
Fuel,	-	-	-	26 76
Care of rooms,	-	-	-	24 50
Repairs, &c.,	-	-	-	50 17
				<hr/>
				\$501 43

HANCOCK SCHOOL.

Instruction, - - -	\$2,079 99
Fuel, - - -	106 50
Care of rooms, - - -	105 84
Repairs, &c., - - -	224 39
	<hr/>
	\$2,516 72

HIGH SCHOOL.

Instruction, - - -	\$2,662 50
Fuel, - - -	83 75
Care of rooms, - - -	54 88
Repairs, &c., - - -	146 75
	<hr/>
	\$2,947 88

HOWARD SCHOOL.

Instruction, - - -	\$400 00
Fuel, - - -	34 70
Care of rooms, - - -	13 81
Repairs, &c., - - -	181 00
	<hr/>
	\$629 51

WARREN SCHOOL.

Instruction, - - -	\$469 37
Fuel, - - -	36 95
Care of rooms, - - -	19 25
Repairs, &c., - - -	36 78
	<hr/>
	\$562 35
Instruction in music, - - -	\$264 00
Not classified, - - -	128 43
	<hr/>
	\$392 43

Amount of bills approved for 1876-77,	*\$9,998 56
Amount of bills approved for 1875-76,	13 55
	<hr/>
	\$10,012 11

On the 11th of March last, the board was temporarily organized by the choice of Hammon Reed chairman, and William Plumer secretary. In May the resignation of Mr. Reed as one of the board was reluctantly accepted, and the selectmen notified of the vacancy. On June 1, the board was permanently organized by the choice of William Plumer chairman, and W. R. Cutter secretary; and on June 6, the selectmen and school committee in convention, unanimously chose the Rev. E. S. Elder to fill the vacancy caused by Mr. Reed's resignation.

Owing to the reduced school appropriations, the committee found themselves obliged to reduce the salaries of the teachers, and to discharge Horace Bird the music teacher. In order to make a further reduction of expense possible, it was voted to consolidate the Adams School, by discharging the intermediate teacher, Miss Pierce, and giving a part of her scholars to Mr. Peabody and the balance to Miss Fiske, the teacher of the primary classes.

The teachers whose salaries it was deemed proper to reduce, without exception acceded to the committee's offer, and no changes were made in the general order of the schools, save those already mentioned.

* This amount does not include bill of J. W. Pierce, of \$354, for coal, approved by the committee, but not by the selectmen.

The Franklin series of readers has been introduced in the several schools, and Mr. Plumer was authorized to furnish books, stationery, &c., for all the schools.

The enumeration of school children in town made by the assessors, by direction of the school committee, May 1, gives the whole number as 499.

In July, Mr. A. E. White, Miss Annie R. Rice and Miss Fanny A. Kimball, the principal and assistants of the High School, resigned, and the secretary was instructed to convey to each an expression of the committee's appreciation of their services.

On July 25, the position of principal of the High School was awarded to Mr. R. B. Clarke, a teacher of long experience, and late principal of the high schools in Fitchburg and Binghamton, N. Y. The position of assistants was awarded to Mrs. Imogen W. Eddy and Miss Emily P. Hidden.

Of the applicants for admission to the High School examined in June, twenty-one were from the public and one from a private school; eleven from the Hancock Grammar, five from the Adams Grammar, three from the Franklin and two from the Warren schools.

One from the private school, four from the Adams and one from the Hancock school were admitted without conditions. Two from Hancock, one from Adams and one from Warren were admitted with cautions.

At the re-examination eight applicants appeared. Four from Hancock school were admitted without conditions. Two from Hancock and one from Franklin on conditions. Admitted at both examinations, 17; rejected, 1.

On September 26, it was voted to employ Horace Bird as music teacher of schools the balance of the financial year, one school day in each week, and at a lower rate than that at which he had been employed, which position Mr. Bird accepted.

The committee have painted the outside of the Hancock school house, and shingled the roof of the Howard, and have endeavored to keep all the school houses in as good repair as their limited means would allow.

ADAMS SCHOOLS.

The lower department in this building, under the charge of Miss Carrie E. Fiske, is composed of the primary classes and two classes of the former intermediate school, who still pursue the studies of the intermediate course; the two advanced classes of the former intermediate school being under the instruction of Mr. Peabody, and are still pursuing the intermediate course. Miss Fiske sustains her excellent reputation.

The discharge of Miss Pierce as teacher of the former intermediate school, and the division of her scholars, as before stated, were owing to no dissatisfaction the committee felt with her services, or with her school, but necessitated by a greatly reduced school appropriation.

The grammar school under the instruction of Mr. Peabody is a model of thoroughness and promptness.

HANCOCK SCHOOLS.

The teachers in this building are Miss Ellen E. Harrington, primary, Miss Fannie A. Hutchinson, inter-

mediate, Mrs. Ellen B. Lane, sub-grammar, and Mrs. Rosa Akerman, grammar.

There is no occasion to particularize concerning these schools, beyond the fact that the teachers are faithful and the schools prosperous. Great progress has been made in the grammar school under Mrs. Akerman.

MIXED SCHOOLS.

The Bowditch school was under the charge of Miss Ada M. Frost till the last of December, when she resigned to go South for her health. In her place was appointed Miss Emma E. Wright, of this town, who began her duties on January 1. The school promises well for the future.

The Franklin school has been under the charge the past year of Miss C. A. Underwood, and has made satisfactory advancement under her efficient instruction. The school room has been painted and whitewashed.

The Howard school has been under the charge of Miss Maria A. Butterfield. The building has undergone considerable repairs. The school is prosperous.

The Warren school has been under the charge of Miss M. Alice Paul. Several needful repairs have been made on the building, and the school is making good progress.

HIGH SCHOOL.

The names of the graduating class of 1876 are as follows:

Sarah Augusta Adams, Ottie Susan Alderman, Lillie Frances Choate, Abby Pierce Holbrook, Amelia

Maria Mulliken, Leah A. Nunn, Ellen Henry Parker, Edith Jewett Robinson, Charles A. Adams, Clifford Wellington Bryant, Nathaniel Nunn, Alfred Pierce.

The graduating exercises of the class occurred Wednesday evening, June 28.

In January Mr. Clarke, the principal, resigned, to accept a similar position at Waltham, and Mr. George R. Dwelley, formerly principal of the Watertown high school, was appointed principal for the ensuing year.

The public examination of the school, as conducted by Mr. Clarke, was satisfactory, and showed thoroughness of instruction in the higher branches.

It is the opinion of the committee that the schools have made commendable progress during the past year. The examinations have shown the results of faithful and interested effort on the part of the teachers. The deportment of all our schools is especially praiseworthy.

As a matter of economy and efficiency, it is desired that each grade should do the highest work it is capable of doing. Each school should hold its classes one year longer. This would allow the grammar schools to give more thorough and extended instruction to that large majority of scholars who, from various causes, are limited to the grammar school for that education that is to fit them for life. Our scholars are graduating from the grammar schools one year before they ought. One year's prolonged instruction, including commercial arithmetic, book-keeping, and natural philosophy, will do more for this majority of scholars, more to fit them for their work in life, than any two years preceding. It is a significant fact that the majority of our scholars leave school before they are fifteen. Will parents co-operate with the committee in extending the course

of study in the grammar school, so that their children who have no other opportunity can be very much better fitted for the business of life than it is possible under the present arrangement?

This will also relieve the high school of a work that can be as well done in the grammar schools, and allow it to do the work that a high school ought to do.

The efficiency of all our schools may be nearly doubled by allowing each grade to do the highest work it is capable of doing.

The breaking of glass in school buildings, mainly accidental, has been a source of unavoidable expense. The difficulty of warming school rooms in cold weather requires a large expenditure of fuel, and the repair of furnaces and stoves occasions constant outlay. The schools should not be stinted in their warming apparatus, if the comfort and health of the children are valued.

In consideration of the danger to school children in case of fire, and for greater convenience and better discipline, the committee advocate, in conjunction with the suggestion of several friends of the schools, that the town appropriate a sufficient sum for stairs from Mrs. Lane's school room in Hancock school house to an outside entrance on the ground floor. The staircase can occupy the inside of the building without destroying useful space. The committee are soliciting plans and estimates for the work, which can probably be accomplished at an expense not greater than one hundred and fifty dollars.

The cupola and roof of the Adams school house need repair, to prevent the building from leaking. The outside would be improved by painting.

The same remarks are true of the roof and exterior

of the High School. If recitation rooms were built from the side of the High School building, and those now used discontinued, greater convenience would result.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

The committee have re-appointed Messrs. Eli Simonds and Walter Wellington truant officers for the ensuing year.

ROLL OF HONOR.

Scholars not absent or tardy.

ADAMS GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

For the year. — William Bass, Louis Chalenor, Mary B. Chisholm, Mary E. Fletcher.

For a term. — William L. Barnes, Amie Holbrook, Florence Holbrook, R. A. Holbrook, Etta Smith, Jennie Smith.

ADAMS PRIMARY SCHOOL.

For the year. — W. Frank Fletcher.

For a term. — M. Augusta Chalenor, Freddie B. Fletcher, Julia M. Maynard, Mattie F. Smith.

BOWDITCH SCHOOL.

For a term. — Michael Hinchey, Prescott B. Paine.

FRANKLIN SCHOOL.

For a term. — Eddie E. Cutler, Stephen C. Wright.

HANCOCK GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

For the year. — Andrew J. Adair, Clarence E. Fiske.
 For a term. — Lillie A. Adair, Alice H. Butters, Battie Callahan, George Conant, Everett S. Emery, Sylvia B. Reed, Fred. C. Saville.

HANCOCK SUB-GRAMMAR SCHOOL.

For a year. — Mattie C. Locke.
 For a term. — Nettie Comley, Clarence E. Fiske, Howard Hendley, Edgar Lane, Frank Lunt, Minnie Vallette.

HANCOCK INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL.

For a term. — Mattie C. Locke.

HANCOCK PRIMARY SCHOOL.

For a term. — Frank McCarthy.

HIGH SCHOOL.

For the year. — William L. Barnes, Clifford W. Bryant, Lillie F. Choate, Everett S. Emery, Evelyn P. Flint, Albert K. Hill, Nellie Lunt, Abbott S. Mitchell, Amelia M. Mulliken, Leah A. Nunn, Nathaniel Nunn, Alfred Pierce, Edith J. Robinson, Susie H. Stearns, Frank R. Whittemore.

For a term. — Hattie E. Adams, F. Edwin Elder, Joseph H. Fitch, Sophronia A. Fletcher, William C. Gleason, Warren B. Hadley, Annie J. Leavitt, Elmina Munroe, Nellie H. Parker, Frank W. Pierce, George H. Reed, William W. Reed, Mary L. Smith, Charles H. Underwood.

HOWARD SCHOOL.

For the year. — Emily Furguson.
 For a term. — Lucy Putnam, Mamie Reed.

WARREN SCHOOL.

For a term. — Mary Dunn, Lucy Porter.

The committee ask the town to appropriate for the support of public schools, the ensuing year, the following sums:

For instruction, fuel and care of rooms	\$9,700 00
" incidentals and repairs, -	300 00
" stairs at Hancock school house, -	150 00
" unpaid coal bill of J. W. Pierce, -	354 00
	<hr/>
	\$10,504 00

Respectfully submitted,
 WILLIAM PLUMER,
 W. R. CUTTER,
 E. S. ELDER.

LEXINGTON, February, 1877.

TABULAR VIEW.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	No. of Scholars. 1st Term.	No. of Scholars. 2d Term.	Average Number 1st Term.	Average Number 2d Term.	Average Number for the year.	Percent- age of Attend- ance of actual Members.	Salaries.
High.....	A. E. White. E. B. Clarke. Annie R. Rice. Fanny A. Kimball. Imogen W. Eddy. Emily P. Hidden.	56	60	50	53	51.5	97.2	\$1,800 00 1,500 00 550 00 475 00 500 00 500 00
Adams Grammar.....	Silas Peabody.	42	43	32	33-	35-	95.3	1,050 00
Hancock Grammar.....	Rosa Akerman.	56	45	43	41.4	42.2	94	750 00
Hancock Sub-Grammar.....	Ellen B. Lane.	33	39	27.58	35.83	31.7	94.9	800 00
Hancock Intermediate.....	Fannie A. Hutchinsan.	44	38	33	33	32.5	86	500 00
Bowditch.....	{ Ada M. Frost. Emma E. Wright.	45	45	34	36	35	86	425 00 500 00 450 00
Franklin.....	C. A. Underwood.	21	18	17.6	15.2	16.7	86	400 00
Howard.....	M. A. Butterfield.	20	27	13.77	19.03	15.9	78	400 00
Warren.....	M. Alice Paul.	38	57	32.1	38.03	34.08	59	475 00
Adams Primary	Carrie F. Fiske.	41	38	27.5	31.6	29.5	82	450 00
Hancock Primary.....	Ellen E. Harrington.	47	38	32.84	27.77	30.3	83.5	400 00
Music Teacher for all the schools..	Horace Bird.	320 00